



When you put "Prestone" brand antifreeze in your ear, winter worry is out—for this anti-freeze will not fail! One shot of "Prestone" anti-freeze gives you complete protection against costly freeze-up. There's no replacing, because "Prestone" antifreeze will not boil away or foam off. There are no obnoxious fumes. No fire hazard. "Prestone" brand anti-freeze prevents rust and corrosion. GUARANTEED IN WRITING. See your dealer now.

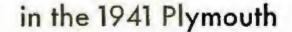
The words "Prestane" and "Everendy" are registered trade-marks of National Carbon Company, Inc.



"PRESTONE" Anti-freeze

"YOU'RE SAFE-AND YOU KNOW IT!"

# HOW SUPERFINISH PUTS FRICTION ON THE SKIDS



Revolutionary new Method of Finishing Engine Parts
Produces Amazingly Smooth Surfaces - Extra Quietness,
Long Life, and Economy in the 1941 Plymouth

A HUMAN HAIR is
3,000 times thicker
than a "micro-inch"
—new unit needed
to measure astonishing accuracy of
Superfinish in 1941
Plymouth engine!

SUPERFINISHED surfaces of the 1941 Plymouth engine are virtually *immune* to friction and operating wear, when properly lubricated! Superfinish *scrubs off* tiny, sharp surface irregularities that might otherwise puncture the microscopically thin film of oil which separates and prevents wear between the moving parts of the engine!

# MICRO-DIAGRAMS SHOWING MAGNIFIED SURFACE PROFILES





Note absence of wear-causing points in Superfinished surface (right).



For extra-long life, smoothness — 1941 Plymouth engine is Superfinished at 35 points!

BEST-ENGINEERED

In addition to Superfinish and all its other famous long-life engineering, Plymouth for 1941 brings you 19 great new advancements!

Performance is stepped-up 4 ways...increased horsepower, increased torque—new transmission and axle ratios! There's new Powermatic Shifting...new Fashion-Tone Interior...big 117-inch Wheelbase!

See and drive this new whirlwind performer today! PLYMOUTH DIVI-SION OF CHRYSLER CORPORATION.

TUNE IN MAJOR BOWES' HOUR, C.B.S., THURSDAYS, 9 TO 10 P.M., E.S.T. SEE THE NEW 1941 LOW-PRICED PLYMOUTH COMMERCIAL CARS!

This One



# OUR PART IN NATIONAL DEFENSE

The Bell System is a nation-wide telephone system — ready to serve the United States in normal times or emergency. It has . .



Walter S. Gifford, President, American Telephone and Telegraph Company

- The trained forces to operate telephone equipment and plant.
- 2. The trained staffs to direct these operations.
- The latest motorized, mechanized telephone groups of great mobility which can concentrate anywhere quickly.
- 4. A dependable service of supply that reaches anywhere in the United States.
- A source of supply the Western Electric Company, devoted to telephone manufacture.
- A great laboratory that brings the advance of science to bear on the improvement of telephony.

7. The financial strength to keep going and work ahead for the future.

Each is important. All are necessary for good telephone service from day to day and for the needs of national defense.

It is the organization, the team-work, that counts. That means trained, experienced men and management, working together and planning ahead, so that the right material and the right "know how" will be at the right place at the right time.

Water 5. Eigend



# Popular Mechanics Magazine

H. H. WINDSOR, Founder

H. H. WINDSOR, Jr., Editor and Publisher

December, 1940

Vol. 74, No. 6

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# Five Million Miles on a Pound

FANTASTIC, we'd call it ourselves, if Dr. R. M. Langer of California Institute of Technology were not the author. Telling of the imminent harnessing of the atom's power, this eminent physicist talks of a one-pound package of uranium that will drive your car 5,000,000 miles. We'll fly, he says, several thousand miles an hour—faster than earth's rotation; no two points in the world will be more than seven hours apart. Read "The Miracle of U-235" in the January issue. You'll long for the universal comfort of the coming age of uranium.

# Exploring a Frozen Continent

JUST a few weeks ago it was seventy-five below zero down at Little America, but it's summer there now and the men of Uncle Sam's Antarctic expedition are out exploring the bottom of the world by ski and plane, tractor and dog sled. A feature in January brings you news and the latest pictures from the southernmost habitation of the earth.

# Next Month

JP IN the control tower the green light shows. Propellers howl, and the great liner moves down the runway, faster, faster. The tail is up. The hangars across the field are coming toward you at an alarming rate. But there's a gentle tug at the wheel and you're lifting away. If you've never traveled in the cockpit, read next month's Coloroto story, "At the Controls with an Air Line Pilot," written by the pilot himself. It's illustrated by eight pages of color photographs.

# Homes Built to Last

MASS production at last is being applied to home construction. The result is a modern home of steel and brick and concrete, built like a medieval castle and intended to last as long, yet costing no more than a shanty. Precast concrete joists, factory-stamped metal form sheets, smooth concrete walls inside and out—walls that will withstand anything short of artillery fire. Read how it's done in the January article, "Low-Cost Homes Built to Last."

# Sight-Effects Man

SINCE the television camera cannot lie, the "sight-effects" man must. To achieve the effect on the television screen of a machine gun mowing down a row of glass jars, one sight-effects man hooked up a row of mousetraps and etched the jars so they'd shatter as the traps snapped. A feature next month offers a glimpse of this newest profession.

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#### IMPROVEMENT IN ENGINE OPERATION

Pyroil is a valuable lubrication process in highly concentrated, liquid form which goes beyond the usual or regular lubrication methods in its ability to protect and improve engine operation. It is to be added to—does not replace—your present lubricant. It has been used by millions of car owners for many years.

The addition of Pyroil to the fuel tank and to the crankcase of an engine has several important benefits.

## **HOW PYROIL WORKS**

When Pyroil is supplied to the engine through the gasoline tank—in the proportion of one ounce of Pyroil to each five gallons of gasoline—it is then fed to the cylinders through the carburetor in the form of a fine mist of tiny particles. On the compression stroke these particles of Pyroil are condensed on the piston head, the cylinder walls, the valves and rings in the form of tiny droplets. Pyroil has a great tendency to spread out on metal surfaces and consequently these droplets spread rapidly and units, forming a film over the entire cylinder area. This is the secret of Pyroil's performance.

The Pyroil film (f) treads to prevent carbon matter from

The Pyroil film (1) tends to prevent carbon matter from adhering to the metal surfaces, thus effectively preventing hard carbon deposits, (2) It prevents acid-corrosive materials which are regularly formed as products of combustion from reaching the metal surfaces, thus effectively inhibiting acid-corrosive attack. (3) It aids in proper lubrication of valves and rings. (4) It exerts a powerful solvent action on gummy residue formed on valve stems and rings.

#### MARKED RESULTS

The importance of these effects can scarcely be over-emphasized. Extensive repairs and expensive bills are commonly offset. Because of the elimination of upper cylinder acid-corrosion, bore and ring wear are drastically reduced. This means continued better engine performance and longer useful engine life.

How Pyroil protects bearings, pistons and other parts in the base, when used in the crankcase, will be told in a followup to this advertisement soon. Ollp this ad and save it for your reference.



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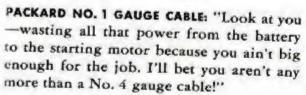
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# HEY, SKINNY!

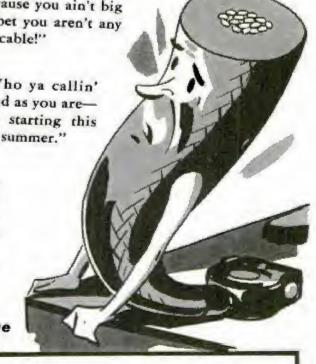
THAT'S NO JOB FOR YOU"



undersize cable: "Who ya callin' skinny? I'm as big around as you are—and besides, I've been starting this car all right through the summer."

PACKARD NO. 1 GAUGE CABLE: "Sure, you're as big around on the outside, but it's what's inside that counts. You've only got 50% of my copper core—50% of my carrying capacity! That's why this Certified Re-Wiring Station is putting me in and taking you out for coldweather starting!"

Packard Battery Cables are Full No. 1 Gauge



# GET A CERTIFIED RE-WIRING CHECK-UP FOR SURE STARTING THIS FALL AND WINTER

Undersize battery cables and loose or dirty connections are the most common cause of hard starting. That's why you should drive into a Certified Re-Wiring Station before cold weather begins, and let a trained mechanic check your starting circuit. He'll do the job right, because he uses only Packard No. 1 gauge battery cables for replacement.

Packard Certified Re-Wiring Stations have the right tools and equipment to trace down troubles in your electrical system and put it in A-1 shape—starting circuits, ignition circuits, lighting circuits and accessory circuits. Your car will run better for this service, and it may very likely save you costly repairs to major electrical units later on. Packard Electric Division, General Motors Corporation, Warren, Ohio.





THE STANDARD WIRING EQUIPMENT OF THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY



Motorcycling opens up a whole new world
of fun and excitement for you. And a 1941
Harley-Davidson will make your dreams of thrills
and adventure really come true! Glorious zooming power and rugged dependability to take
you any place you want to go — anytime. Yes,
and plenty of good times with other riders on
club runs and gypsy tours, at races, hillclimbs
and other exciting events. See your HarleyDavidson dealer — get the thrilling story of
motorcycling, the world's great-



# DAVIDSON

Dept. P. Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Send FREE copy of big 24-page "Enthusiast"
magazine filled with thrilling motorcycle pictures
and stories. Also literature on the 1941 HarleyDavidsons. Stamp is enclosed for mailing cost,

Name

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# Plan Your Future

# Choose Your Field NOW For Success

Will you master fate or will fate master you? That's a question deserving your honest answer...right now! Actually it is largely up to you. You can do with Life almost what you will. LaSalle will help you establish yourself for real success by providing you with the comprehensive, specialized training for which it is so famous. Choose your field . . . now! Check the coupon below for the free booklet you want us to send you. It can be your first step toward assured success.

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- the man with legal training is a leader—not a follower.
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- (3) knowledge of law simplifies the complications of executive work.
- (4) Many top executive places are filled by men who have studied law.

No matter whether you are in a big corporation or a small business—in a great city or a little town—a practical knowledge of law cannot fail to be of real and vital help to you in making a more successful career.

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In every state in the union you'll find law-trained men who came up through LaSalle. What others have done you can do

done, you can do.

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trained executives is growing rapidly. We train you thoroughly at home in your spare time for every type of executive work—teach you the principles and practices used by our most successful business leaders and help you develop your management capacity—by a training built with the aid of outstanding executives.

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Preliminary knowledge of bookkeeping is unnecessary. We train you from the ground up, or from where you now are, according to your individual needs.

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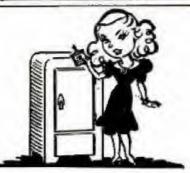
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ware,10 / Stores.



# **PLASTIC WOOD**



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#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is the intention of this magazine to provide its readers with information regarding the latest developments in the mechanical arts. We take no responsibility as to whether the disclosures contained in our articles are covered by patents and advise readers to investigate this subject before making, using, or selling any of the products, machines, or processes described, in order to avoid possible liability for patent infringement.



# MACHINE GUNS!

No sane person would tackle a machine-gun nest armed with a smoothbore musket! • Yet thousands of men try to get ahead in Business and Industry armed with training as obsolete as a flintlock—and wonder why they don't succeed! • You can storm the fortress of Success—and achieve it!—only if your training is sound, practical and up-to-the-minute. One way to get that kind of training is through the International Correspondence Schools! Thousands of I. C. S. graduates have "moved up" into positions of leadership and larger rewards, because they knew that, other things equal, learning means earning! • This coupon will bring you complete information that's vital to your success! Mail it—not tomorrow, but right now!

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☐ Advanced Dress ☐ Foods and Cook	making   Home Dressm		Tea Room and Cafeteria Management, Catering
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Radio is already one of the country's large industries even though it Is still young and growing. The arrival of Television, the use of Radio principles in industry, are but a few of many recent Radio developments. More than 28,000,000 homes have one or more Radios. There are more Radios than telephones. Every year millions of Radios go out of date and are replaced. Millions more need new

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tubes, repairs, etc. Over 5,000,000 auto Radios are in use and thousands more are being sold every day. In every branch Radio offers opportunities for which I give you the required knowledge of Radio at home in your spare time. Yes, the few hundred \$30, \$40, \$50 a week jobs of 20 years ago have grown to thousands.

## Many Make \$5 to \$10 a Week Extra in Spare Time While Learning

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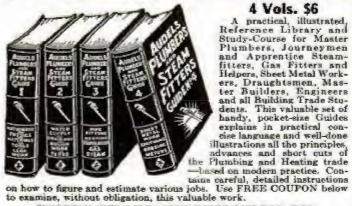
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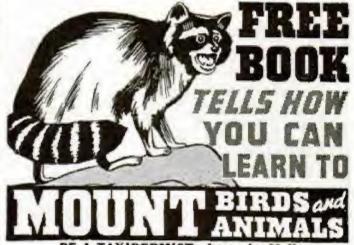
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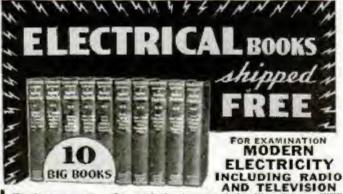
To keep butter at just the right temperature for easy spreading, there is an electric plate that goes into the refrigerator. On this base a butter dish is set. Thermostatically controlled, the electric plate keeps the butter at fifty-eight degrees Fahrenheit, regardless of refrigerator temperature. Thus the butter is always ready to spread, and need not be "thawed." The unit is insulated so no heat escapes into the refrigerator. Using one and one-half watts a.c. or d.c., it is connected to the house circuit by a cord which may be brought out of the door at the hinged side.



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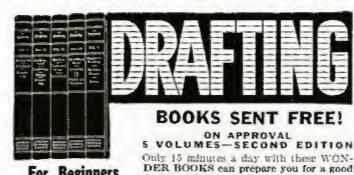
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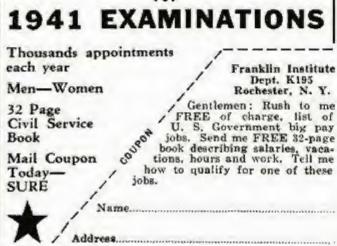
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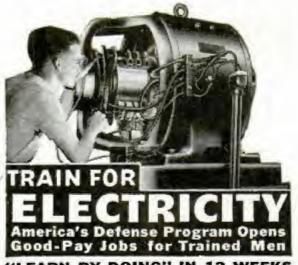
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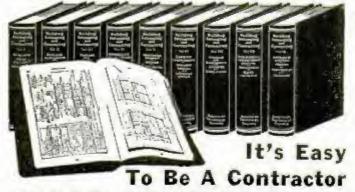
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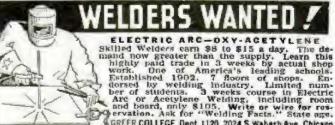
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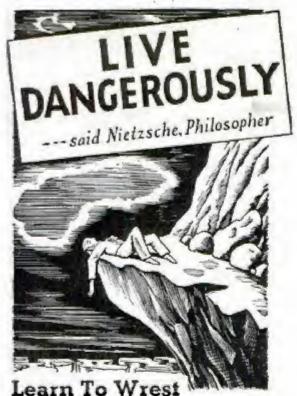
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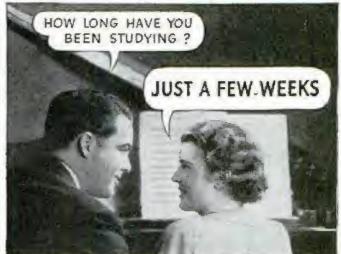
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Angeles, Calif.

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GOOD Paying business silvering mir-

GOOD Paying business silvering mirrors, plating autoparts, reflectors, bicycles, bathroom fixtures by late method. Free particulars and proofs. Gunmetal Co., Ave. N. Decatur. III.

AGENTS — Opportunity make money; book containing 127 successful business plans; home-office; send for free introductory booklet. Elite Co., 214 Grand St., New York.

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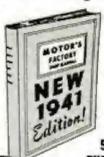
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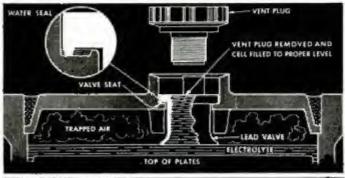
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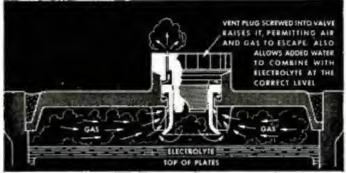
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Leading cars in every price field come equipped with powerful Delco bat-







teries because their manufacturers know the dependability this Delco-Remy product provides. When you need a new battery for your car, regardless of make or model, there is no surer way to get real value than to follow the example of these car manufacturers.

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# THE NEW DELCO

Safeguards against overfilling . . . automatically

Delco batteries now feature the Delco Electro-Level, which simplifies the filling problem and prevents over-filling. It goes into action immediately and automatically when the vent plug is removed. A valve sleeve drops down and forms a water-sealed air lock in the cell when the right electrolyte level is reached; there are no extra steps—it is entirely automatic in operation.

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World's Largest Manufacturer of Automotive Electrical Equipment

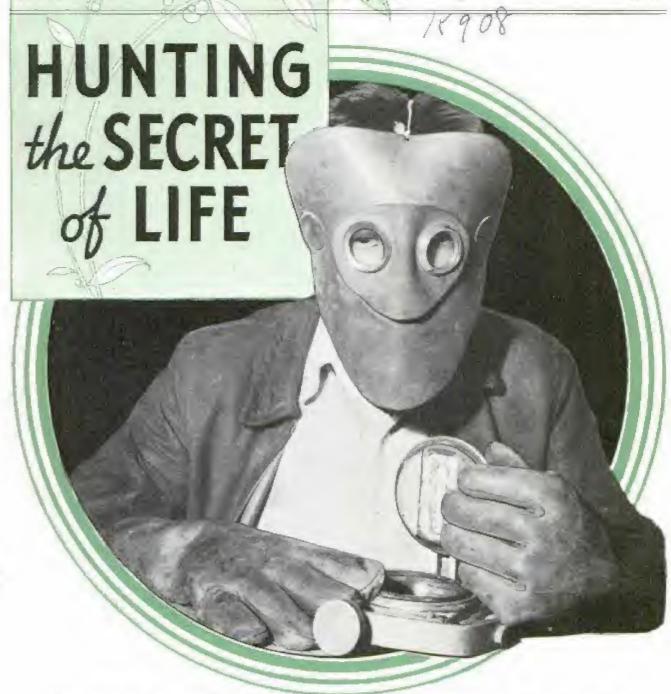
# Popular Mechanics Magazine

WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

Vol. 74

DECEMBER, 1940

No. 6



Laboratory worker protected by lead mask and gloves is shown removing radio-active carbon from the target of the cyclotron. Radio-active carbon dioxide is created by bombardment

If THE sun's energy were delivered to the earth in the form of coal instead of light rays we might expect to find a coal pile weighing seventy or eighty tons on each acre of ground at the end of each month.

Scientists estimate that during the ninety-day summer growing season enough solar energy to equal 243 tons of coal is received by an acre of ground. One per cent of this is used by plant life for transforming chemicals into food, and the rest is wasted.

Sunlight is a cheaper source of power than coal or gasoline but only plants have the ability to use it efficiently. By photosynthesis they employ light to transform carbon dioxide from the air, and water from the ground, into sugar and other car-

DECEMBER, 1940

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SOLAR ENERGY RECEIVED BY THE EARTH

Well made with

AMOUNT OF ENERGY

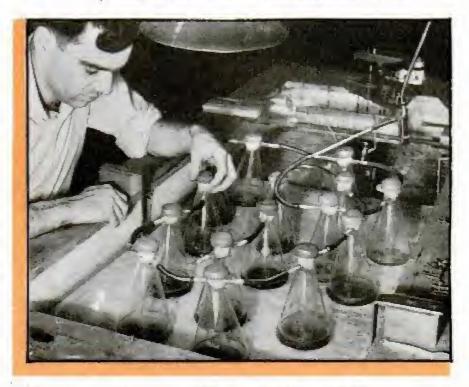
USED BY MAN

bohydrates. This is a chemical reaction that not even the most advanced chemists can duplicate. The method that plants have perfected is one of the most perplexing puzzles yet unsolved by science and is the objective of various research groups concentrating on studies of plant mechanics.

Charles F. Kettering's statement that he wants to find out "why grass is green" is one way of expressing the problem, while others suggest that we will have gone a long way toward solving the mystery of life when the mechanism of plants is understood, because plants alone create their own food from the elements. All other forms of life are parasites on the vegetable kingdom. Top, left, citrus seedlings in water-culture bath. By controlling bath ingredients, presumably amount of chlorophyll in leaves can be increased or decreased, aiding in studies of photosynthesis. Right, agitating green and purple bacteria so each receives light quota. Circle, comparing sun's energy with that man uses. Bottom, plant algae being fed radio-active carbon dioxide in constant-temperature bath under electric light

eller a

No one expects that photosynthesis will ever be used to manufacture foods artificially. The vegetable kingdom is already doing that efficiently for us. But science would find a thousand and one important jobs for photosynthesis in effecting chemical transformations that are not now possible. For one thing, it might be the key to creating hydrocarbons at will, a discovery that would free civilization from the



worry of its dwindling petroleum reserves. Too, photosynthesis might provide a cheap way for cre-

ating vitamins.

Chlorophyll, the green coloring matter in plants, is the agent that captures and uses sunlight. It is a complex compound that contains iron, magnesium and other material, and is organized like the hemoglobin of blood. A score of million particles of this pigment occur in a square inch of leaf surface, contained in special chloroplast cells. It can be extracted as a dark-green substance, and recently

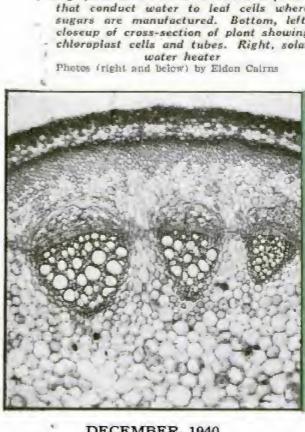
has been used effectively in treating common colds and other bacterial infections. In the test tube, unfortunately, it has none of the photosynthetic qualities that it has

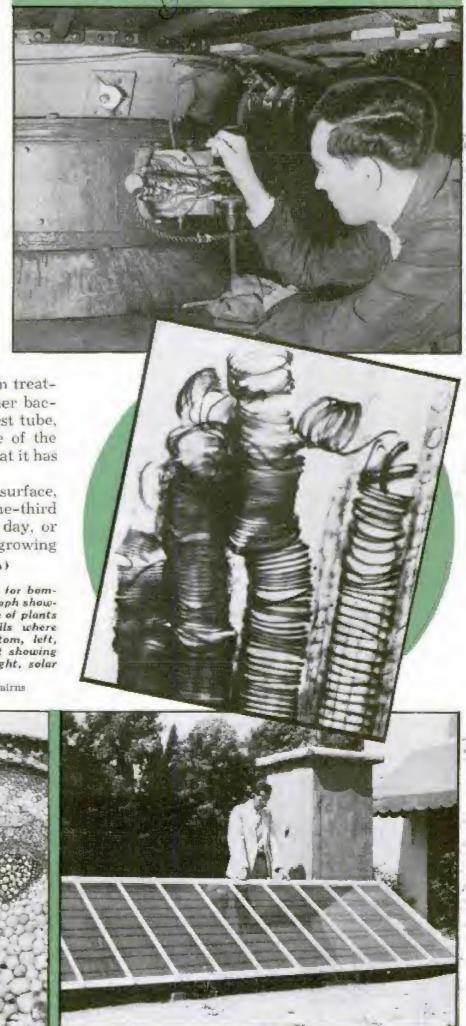
in a live plant.

A square yard of leaf surface, it is estimated, produces one-third of an ounce of sugar a day, or nearly three pounds in a growing

(Continued to page 152A)

Top, target in place in cyclotron for bombardment. Center, photomicrograph showing spiral nature of tubes in stem of plants that conduct water to leaf cells where sugars are manufactured. Bottom, left, closeup of cross-section of plant showing chloroplast cells and tubes. Right, solar





nernals

### Gas Unit Plugs into Furnace for Between-Season Heating



When steady heat is not needed the housewife simply plugs the automatic gas-burning unit into the door of the furnace

For the fall and spring seasons, when changeable weather makes it difficult to keep the house at an even temperature with a hand-fired furnace, there is a "plug-in" gas unit that anyone can install in the furnace. Thermostat-controlled, it supplies heat automatically on chilly days and is cut off on Indian summer or warm spring days, eliminating the bother of building a furnace fire one day and letting it die or overheat the house the next. The unit is portable, weighing only twelve pounds, and is attached easily without nuts, bolts or wrenches, and without any pipes to disconnect. When winter cold

arrives the unit is withdrawn and the furnace operated in the usual way. The gas heater is designed to fit in the door of warm-air furnaces or hot-water boilers.

### Horn Ring Is Easy to Install oin Place of Button



No tools are needed to install a chrome-plated horn ring, now on the market, on the horn button of a Ford, Mercury or Zephyr car. It forms a semi-circle inside the low-

er half of the steering wheel, the connection to the center button lying flat along the two spokes of the wheel. To install it, first remove the original horn button by giving it a quarter-turn to the left. This button and the spring beneath are replaced by special ones as the new horn ring is applied. Then give the button a quarter-turn to the right and the installation is complete.

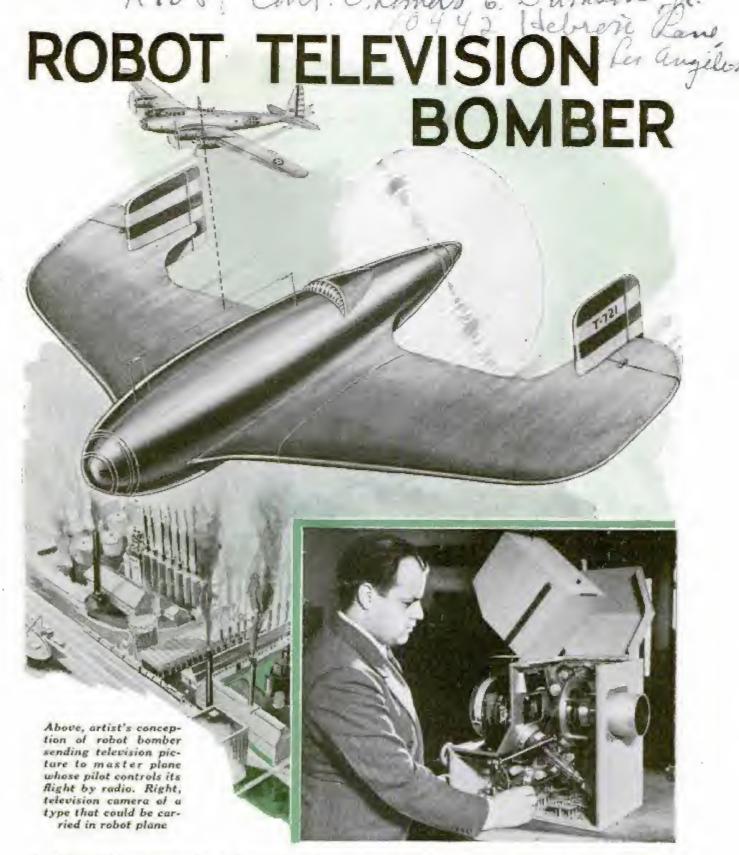
### Trigger-Fed Floor Nailer Stops Hammer Marks

Many difficulties of nailing floors are overcome with a machine claimed to do the job neater and fifty per cent faster. It reduces split tongues and surfaces, and does away with cut or bruised fingers often caused by wood splinters or burrs on nails. Weighing but three pounds, the nailer is easy to handle, automatically placing one flooring nail at a time at the correct angle so the operator can drive and set it with one or two blows on a plunger, without making hammer marks on the floor. A pull of the trigger slides the nail down a track into position for nailing. The magazine holds 250 nails. Any type of tongueand-groove boards can be nailed with the machine, and when fitted with a special shoe it can be used for surface nailing.



Floor nailer drives and sets nail with plunger; trigger operated with left hand feeds a nail at a time

POPULAR MECHANICS



A ROBOT bombing plane, literally a flying bomb with a mechanical eye for seeking out its target, is the proposal of Dr. Lee De Forest and U. A. Sanabria, Chicago television engineer, who believe that such planes, built at an approximate cost of \$10,000 each, would be a simple and practical method of greatly increasing the accuracy of aerial bombardment.

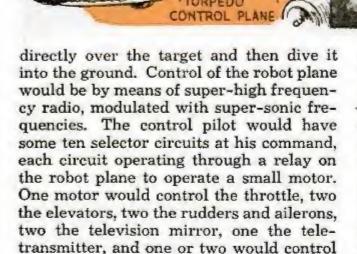
In flight such a plane would be steered and operated by radio from a control plane that could remain as far as ten miles away. The engineers envisage a single-engine airplane loaded with either one large or a number of smaller bombs and containing in its fuselage a television transmitter and a radio-command receiver. Using a frequency-modulation circuit, the television transmitter would be hard to "jam" and would radiate a picture of the ground in front or below the robot plane. Using the information relayed to him from the robot plane's television set, the pilot of the control plane would be able to steer the robot

DECEMBER, 1940 Alaling Blod

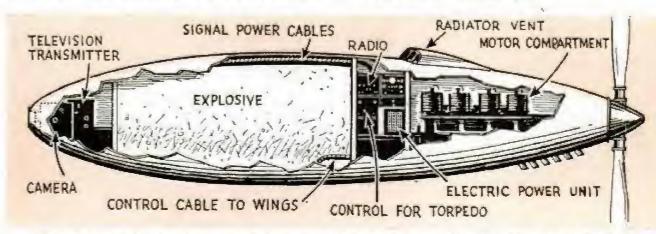


the bomb release devices. The radio control signals would be received by the robot by means of a dipole antenna in the tail, using a copper-tube shielded lead-in that would prevent reception of any signals except those from the control plane.

The flying bomb would be flown from its takeoff field by means of ground radio control, after which the control plane would take over its direction. It could be used for scattering bombs on a number of targets, for flying



a super-bomb to one particular target, or for reconnaissance work at low altitude in areas where it could be expected to be destroyed by anti-aircraft fire after at least some valuable information had been transmitted back by its television eye. The project embodies no new or untried devices and the engineers consider that it is entirely practical. On major raids it would be possible for the control plane to direct the operation of a whole fleet of robot bombers instead of a single plane.



Top of page, television receiver and viewing screen in master control room, with arrow indicating its position in plane; center, right, television camera, control units, amplifier and signal generators used in preliminary tests. Bottom, cutaway drawing of robot as visualized by artist

Speed Lights on Wheels Stop Action at Night

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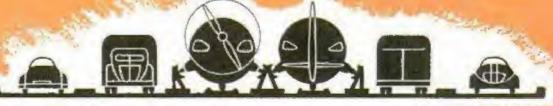
enour lov Fast action in night football games this fall was "frozen" by highspeed lights that made possible exposures of 1/34,000 of a second. The lights were mounted on a rubber-tired carriage which followed the action up and down the field, and as the photographer aimed his camera an assistant aimed the lamps, another turned the current on and off, and another pushed the carriage. Special reflectors permit focusing on distant plays. The light from one lamp was equal to that of about 40,000 fifty-watt household bulbs. The lights are expected to be of especial value in photographing sports events at night.



The brilliant flash of the battery of high-speed lights captured the fast action of a night football game (top) in an exposure of only about 1/34,000 of a second. The cameraman and his light crew are shown below. The three lamps in special reflectors produce light equal to 120,000 fifty-watt bulbs. On their rubber-tired dolly the lights could be rolled up and down the sidelines to follow the action of the game

DECEMBER, 1940

# PLANNING the







Drawing of transportation system suggested by the author. Above, six-lane system in silhouette. Left, future metropolis as designed by Mr. Teague for U. S. Steel exhibit at New York World's Fair

### By Walter Dorwin Teague

Industrial Designer and Author of "Design This Day; The Technique of Order in the Machine Age," published by Harcourt Brace

A BETTER world than we have ever known can and will be built. But the builders must feel into the future, groping carefully, ready to adapt their plan, at any moment, to new truths and unforeseen conditions that may be revealed as they progress.

Our better world may be expected to make equally available for everybody such rare things as interesting, stimulating work,



110



rights-of-way that usually are the shortest lines through the densest concentrations of population. These rights-of-way are almost gradeless as compared with automobile highways, they have no sharp curves and they are becoming free from obstruction by cross traffic. Suppose these rights-of-way were paved with concrete from edge to edge. Suppose they were divided into traffic lanes for varying services, and all their passengers and freight were carried in light powerful units of relatively small size and low cost, powered by internal-combustion engines and borne on rubber tires. These privately operated, specialized highways then could perform a service which the public highways cannot perform and would relieve public highways of a vast load of commercial traffic.

The center lanes of these reborn "railroads" would be concrete-paved but steel-walled channels which would carry very high-speed traffic. Torpedolike vehicles, automatically controlled.

would be shot through these channels at speeds only reached by airplanes now—perhaps in excess of 200 miles per hour, since necessity for human steering and control would be eliminated. Instead of a Twentieth Century Limited leaving New York once a day for an overnight trip to Chicago, we would have capsules of a manageable size departing on their breathless four-hour runs at hourly intervals, or oftener.

These vehicles would have teardrop forms. An airplane motor and propeller mounted on the nose might be the mo-

(Continued to page 158A)

Top, author pointing out to his son, a graduate engineer, details of house appliance in the modern styling. Left, radio tower in "Farm of the Future" diorama at U. S. Steel exhibit. Below, another view of the future metropolis with multilevel traffic systems and multi-story buildings



## Flameproofed Cotton Prevents Spread of Fire

warmagar mgg. co

Cotton made flameproof by a special process provides a lowcost, lightweight and durable insulation for homes and attics, as well as a safe material for decorative purposes, as on Christmas trees. The fibers of the cotton are "wrapped up" in crystals of certain substances that make the fibers incapable of flaming up. To test its fireproof quality, a common rivet heated to 1,500 degrees was buried in two pounds of the cotton and left until it cooled to a normal temperature. A loss of less than five per cent in the weight of the cotton resulted. It can be cut through with a torch, as in the accompanying illustration, but the flame will not spread.

No blaze results when torch is applied to flameproof cotton, as at right; material burns away where flame hits it, but the fire will not spread beyond limited area



### Lesson Moving on a Screen Teaches Speed in Typing

Typewriter students learn accuracy and speed typing in easy stages with the aid of

a self-contained projector and screen that unrolls the lesson in front of the class.



Plainly visible to all the pupils, two lines at a time are shown as the "copy" moves steadily upward at speeds which may be controlled by the teacher. Starting, say,

> with twenty words a minute, the teacher may increase the speed by stages of five words a minute. Unaware of the increased tempo, students acquire speed without conscious effort, eventually attaining a rate of 200 words per minute. For use in the mechanical educator, lessons are typed with a specially inked ribbon on a six-inchwide continuous roll of Cellophane. As this unrolls through the projector, which consists of curved lenses, a curved mirror, electric lamps, a specially surfaced mirror and a magnifying lens, its message is cast on the back of a silk screen. A chart of the typewriter keyboard is placed below the screen as a reference for beginners.

Pupils develop speed on the typewriter with the aid of "moving-lesson" projector at the top of picture

DECEMBER, 1940

811

### Retractable "Mike" at Plate Lets Fans Hear Disputes



Announcing batteries at start of game, the umpire lifts the microphone from ground with foot lever

Squabbles at home plate are put on the air by a "disappearing mike" that rises from the ground at the touch of a foot lever. With it the umpire can make announcements over the loud-speaker system or let the fans "in" on decisions and arguments during the baseball game.

### Pull-Chain in Ratchet Wrench Removes Nuts Quickly

022

Nuts can be removed speedily when a pull-chain ratchet wrench is used. You



A few jerks of chain spins nut on or off the bolt

simply give a few quick tugs on the pullchain, which passes through the handle, and the nut comes off in a hurry. Reverse the ratchet and it spins the nut on just as fast. It is not necessary to remove the socket or wrench until the job is completed, since it performs the entire operation of tightening or loosening. The tool saves the usual ratcheting back and forth in tight places that often slows difficult assembly work and general repairing.

### 'Chute Jump from Stratosphere Tested in Pressure Chamber

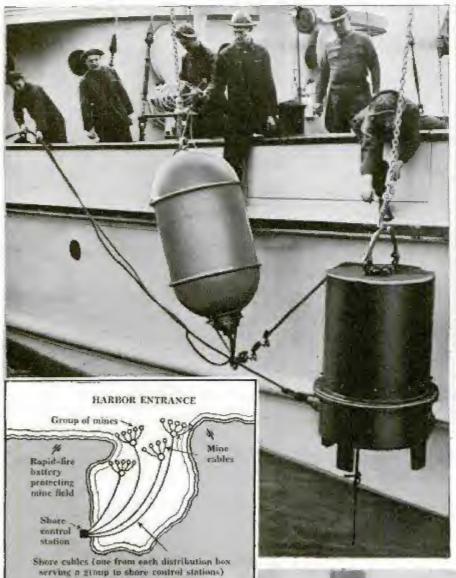
In preparation for a parachute jump from an altitude of 35,000 feet, Arthur H. Starnes conducted tests in a low-pressure chamber at Northwestern University. By duplicating conditions as they exist in the stratosphere he was able to study the effects of sudden changes in air pressure during a seven-mile drop, both upon himself and his instruments and equipment. The 'chutist's apparatus included an oxygen mask, a pneumograph to record



Parachute jumper in low-pressure chamber testing some of the apparatus for high-altitude leap

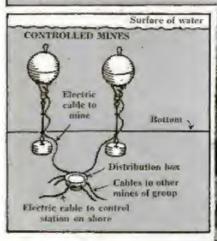
changes in breathing, electrodes for fastening to his wrists to chart heart action, microphones to be strapped to his throat for broadcasting a description of the descent and a motion-picture camera to be fastened under his arm.

# How Mines Help Guard America's Harbors





Mines controlled from shore are among the devices employed to protect American harbors. Top, left, about to release a mine and its anchor from mine-planting ship. Right, mine exploded from shore by means of electricity



Photos courtesy Coast Artillery, U. S. Army

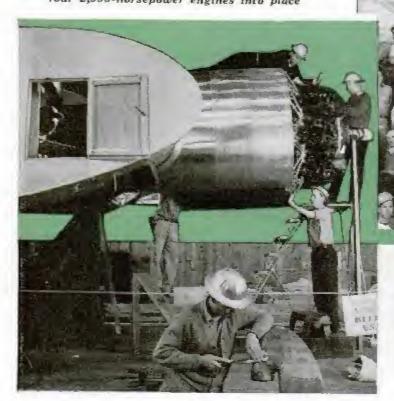
Above, sketches of how electric mines are laid and of how the mine is controlled from shore. Right, loaded mines and equipment ready to be placed aboard mine planter. Floating mines that explode on contact and submarine nets which trap submersible craft are other means of protecting U. S. harbors



# WORLD'S



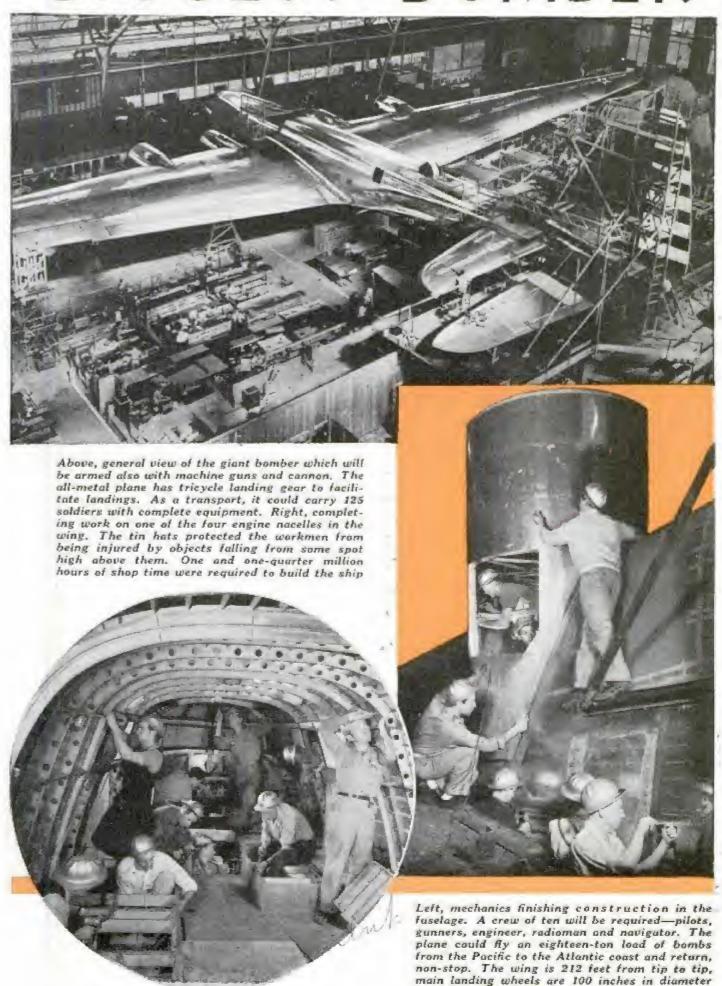
Completion of work and test flights soon will give the U. S. Army the world's largest bombing aireraft, which will have a gross weight of up to 164,000 pounds. The plane has more than 7,500 miles cruising range, 210-miles-per-hour top speed, a bomb capacity of eighteen tons and a fuel capacity of 11,000 gallons. Top, left, mechanics finishing operating cockpit. Right, raising one of the four 2,000-horsepower engines into place



Left, one of the mighty engines on test stand. Above, one of the two shifts of mechanics that built the big bomber. Note the men leaning from openings high up on fuselage and engine housings. Because of the huge size, the wing had to be constructed in vertical position, as shown in this photo. Three million rivets were used in the aircraft

mylas andras

# BIGGEST BOMBER



### Shoes of Plastic Materials Shimmer in the Dark





Top, plastic sled-shaped mules of orange-red colon, bottom, these emit shimmery reflections in dark

Color combinations and other pleasing effects heretofore unknown in women's shoes are made possible with plastic materials now used. Because of their ability to reflect light, some shimmer beautifully in the dark when stray beams strike them.

# V-Belt Resists Static Electricity Averting Danger of Spark

Difficulties caused by V-belts accumulating static electricity and then discharging it all at once, are conquered with a belt now being manufactured that does not permit such a charge to be built up. The new



Resistance to static built into V-belt prevents large electrical discharges and stops short circuit

V-belt retains its static-discharging qualities during its entire service life. The resistance built into the belt is enough to keep currents from passing through it, thus removing the danger of it causing a "short" between the motor and operator. It is of particular value in machinery where static discharges might create a fire hazard, as in gasoline pumps and machines for explosives and milling plants. Such discharges sometimes occur in domestic appliances, such as washing machines, but they, are more alarming than dangerous.

### Flying Time of Rented Airplane Recorded by Meter

Airplanes rented to civilian pilots under a new fly-it-yourself service are paid for on the basis of the number of hours they actually fly, the rates ranging from eight dollars an hour to \$47.50, depending on the type of ship, with a minimum charge for each day the plane is rented. The rental includes gas, oil and every type of insurance necessary. To check the flying time



If you ever rent an airplane it's likely to carry one of these meters to show how many hours you fly

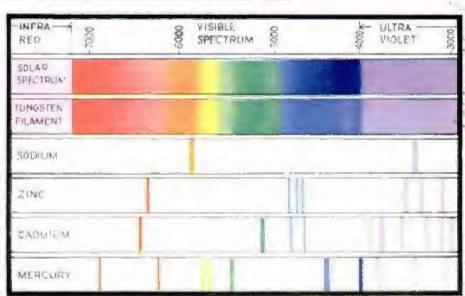
while in the air, a clock meter is built into the plane, either under the seat or under the instrument panel. It keeps a six-day record, registering on a circular face only when the motor is turning at flying speed by tearing away a strip of the paper face around the circle. Two separate circles are provided in the meter, one for each three days. The service has been established at Roosevelt field, Mineola, Long Island, by Howard Ailor, veteran pilot, who expects to extend branches to other major airports of the country.

derman

SWITCHING on the RAINBOW



Color illumination in the home calls for careful study of mixing various colors produced by electric lamps. Above, a bewildering array produced by focusing red, green and blue spotlights on a white screen, then interposing a small disk with a hole in it to break up the combining colors of light. Right, colors prominent in several types of vapor lamps.





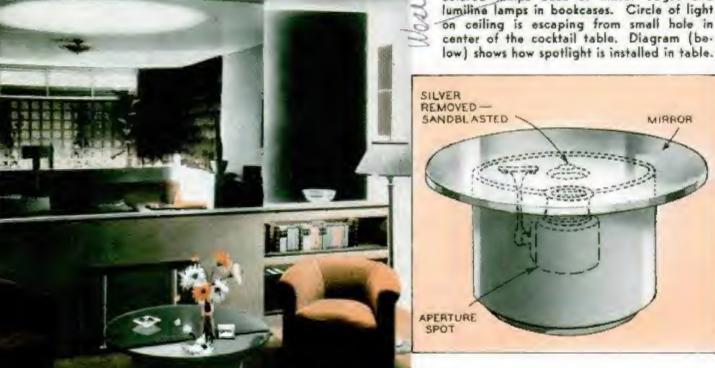
### BY JULIAN P. LEGGETT

By touching a few buttons, the hostess of tomorrow will create a festive atmosphere for a party through the medium of electric lamps producing gaily colored light. If she wishes a quiet atmosphere, perhaps a formal dinner, lamps rich in appropriate colors will help her to achieve it.

Changing the color scheme of a room will be accomplished by flipping a switch. If a wintry storm rages outside, our hostess will turn on red, amber and yellow lights to impart a definite feeling of warmth to the home. And in summer, she will switch on blue, green and bluish-white lights to create a feeling of coolness. Lights may even be arranged to suit her particular mood, or to offset it; stimulating illumination would combat those "Monday blues."

Electric lamps and fixtures for producing almost any color effect are on the market and installations are not expensive. The home owner may begin experimenting with color illumination immediately, if he desires. Meanwhile, interior decorators and lighting engineers are working out applications for this new home-beautifying tool and soon we may expect rec-

Top, locomotive headlamps on "tarture rack" for testing. Bottom, left, interior of demonstration living room with three circuits of colored lamps back of mirror edges and lumiline lamps in bookcases. Circle of light on ceiling is escaping from small hole in center of the cocktail table. Diagram (below) shows how spotlight is installed in table.







ommendations not only on the proper colors for walls, draperies and floor coverings, but also on the kinds and combinations of color lamps to use when we wish to switch from one color scheme to another.

Samuel G. Hibben, director of applied lighting for the Westinghouse Lamp Division, says:

"Color, especially in the home, is inevitably the partnership between qualities of radiation or light and qualities of surfaces. The same surfaceand this is one of the newer arts in mobile decoration-can be made to take on a vitally differing series of colors merely through a sequence of changes in the light itself. By some such means we can adjust the tints and shades in a room now to either the seasons of the year or to the atmosphere of a particular holiday or perhaps just to conform to our personal moods. Here begins a new idea in home coloring, a flexibility in lighting that is aptly termed 'mood conditioning.'

Just so far as we care to go in producing lights of differing tints and qualities, just so far can we enjoy a variety of appearances of interior objects and decorations. Should we elect

Left, illuminating dressing table with fluorescent lamps. Right, demonstrating fluorescent installation in floor lamp. Bottom, pinhole lighting of dining table with spotlights mounted above the false ceiling.





to paint our walls and ceilings of a living room with a matte surface of a very neutral gray, we could produce the following changes: with candles or flame-tint Mazda lamps, the appearance would be rich warm gray; with rose-tinted bulbs, the surfaces would seem almost pink; with mercury vapor lamps, they would be yellowish-green; with still bluer lights, they might appear lavender, skyblue or cold blue; under sodium vapor lamps, the interior would have a lemonyellow appearance, and under orange or red bulbs, the surface would be one or the other of those colors.

"We might have changing color of lighting, from rosy hues in the breakfast room, through the golds and reds of a sunset to the pale tints of summer

moonlight in the music room.

"Not long ago when production of artificial light was expensive, we gratified our color desires by changing interior decorations, not illumination. That was when lamp bulbs cost sixty cents each and electricity ten or fifteen cents per kilowatt-hour. Now electricity costs about three cents per unit and average size Mazda lamps about ten to fifteen cents each, so now we may employ



Special color photos taken by Westinghouse Lamp Division show: top row, left to right, effect under sodium vapor lights, which strongly emphasize yellow; cadmium vapor lamps, which bring out red, green and blue, and the familiar incandescent. Bottom of page, comparing fabrics. Green lamps, in cabinet at left, were replaced with red lamps. Daylight lamps in right side of the cabinet were unchanged.



light for other than strictly utilitarian seeing purposes. In addition, with the advent of the fluorescent lamp, we have a means of generating tints of colors of light directly without wasting any of the generated light through absorption of filtering."

Of course no one should turn all his attention to color illumination. E. W. Commery of General Electric Company

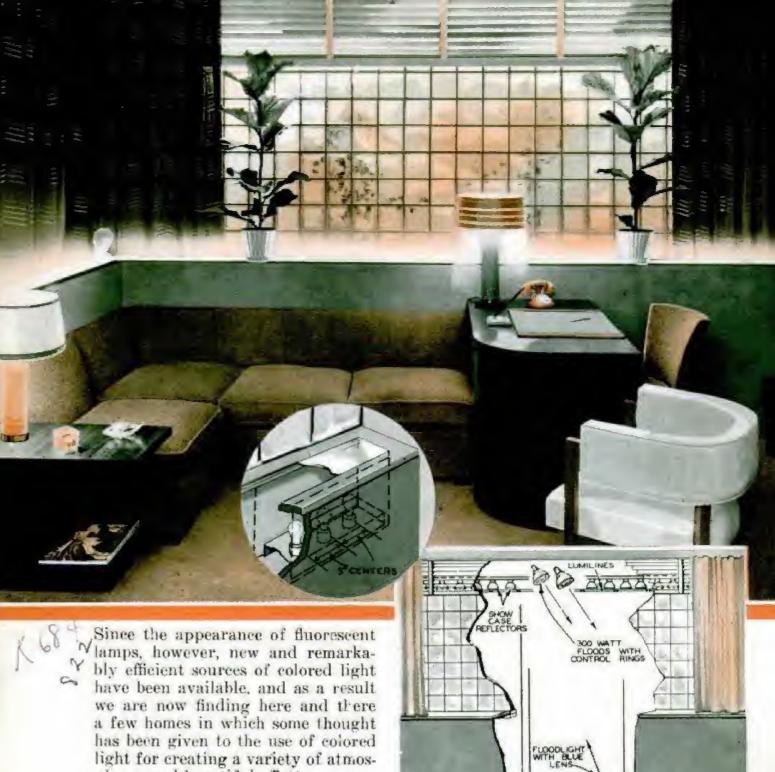
points out:

tures employing exposed and unshaded lamp bulbs with resulting glare and harshness. We are using relatively meager amounts of light for eye conservation and real ease of seeing. Light for beauty has hardly been touched and color effects have been employed in a negligible number of homes. The one exception is that we all burst out once a year with the colorful Christmas tree.

"Surveys show a great usage of fix-

Top, left, false windows in dining room of General Electric Company's demonstration house contain diffusing glass lighted from behind with lamps of three colors. White lamps give stimulating effect at breakfast. Right, milady makes up at boudoir mirror lighted at either side by large luminaires of diffusing glass or plastic containing fluorescent lamps, Bottom, comparing zinc vapor illumination, which emphasizes red and blue, with incandescent.





pheres and beautiful effects. "In recent years the home light-

ing adviser has come into existence and she is bringing the benefits of light in the home to many thousands of homemakers, who in turn are taking their first steps toward making At this time the most changes.

marked step is toward obtaining more light of better lighting quality in the living room. Today we are still living in an age in which there is often a preference for rather marked differences in light and shadow. In the future we would assume very substantial increases of both general and localized lighting, still with light and shadow, but with considerably less contrast. Rooms that have five to ten times the amounts of

Realistic glow of sunshine created at night or in windowless room by using incandescent lamps and projection equipment back of glass block windows. Sketches show glass block and portable ledge, installations.

both general and localized lighting than now are employed generally are found to be entirely homelike, charming and beautiful. The principal sources of light, instead of becoming brighter, may be expected to become greater in area so they need not become brighter in order to provide more light.

"For those who may include in careful advance planning, the new home will carry more of its lighting in the structure itself. It will be considered at the time the house is being created on the drawing board. When lighting becomes an integral part of the structure, we shall have more variety than we ever enjoyed before. Perhaps we shall be able to change many of our decorating schemes, for with changes of light distribution, amounts of light and e olor of light, rooms can be transformed completely."

Lighting engineers are busy with ways and means of introducing color illumination into the home, studying light mixing, developing lamps that emphasize certain colors and so on. They find that if a blue beam and a yellow beam of light are projected on a screen, the portion where they overlap will be white. These colors are said to be complementary and this method of combining colored beams is called the additive method of color mixing. The primary colors for this method are red, green and blue. Red and green combine to give vellow and all the intermediate hues or tints; red and blue give magenta; green and blue give a blue-green.

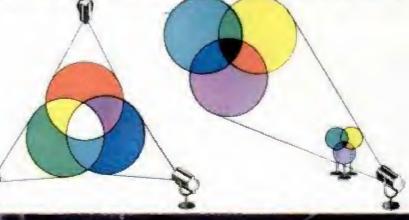
If a beam of white light is made to pass through a piece of yellow glass and a piece of blue-green glass placed behind one another, the light passing through will be seen as green. This is called subtractive color mixing and the tendency is to obt a in less light and to approach black in contrast to the additive

Top, steel mallet ready for jolting test of house appliance lamps. Center, intricate machine employed in manufacture of Mazda lamps is capable of turning out 9,000 in eight hours. Bottom, C. F. Krueger of Westinghouse studying demonstration fluorescent lamp. On rear of table are three mercury vapor lamps and a sodium lamp.











Westinghouse color photo showing gaseous discharge tubes on rack. Top to bottom, helium, neon, mercury and nitrogen. Left, color mixture by addition of wave lengths of light and by subtraction. Bottom, fluorescent lamps of all colors being tested at Nela Park, headquarters of General Electric lamp department.

method in which the tendency is to obtain more light and to approach white. Blue-green, magenta and yellow are the primary colors in the subtractive method.

When electric current is passed through certain gases, light is produced of a color characteristic of the particular gas employed. For instance, neon gas gives a reddish-orange light, mercury-vapor a blue-green, helium a pinkish white and sodium vapor a yellowish light. By far the most efficient means of obtaining colored light are the fluorescent Mazda lamps, consisting of a tube (Continued on page 128A)

Rotating Camera Films Full-Circle Panorama



Top, section of full-circle panorama as would be taken by police photographer. Below, rotating camera, showing mirror in front of lens and film magazine

Turning in a full circle around its fixed sprocket, a revolving camera makes a complete 360-degree panorama photograph on six inches of thirty-five-millimeter film. Simple to operate, it is especially adaptable for police photography. Instead of making a series of snapshots at the scene of a crime, the panorama camera can record the entire scene at once. A springdriven motor rotates the camera when a lever starts it, the shutter remaining open while the camera is being operated. Exposing one-sixteenth inch of film at a time, the exposure taking one-tenth second, the 360-degree picture requires fifteen seconds. The film magazine holds fifty feet of

film, enough for 100 complete panoramas. In front of the wide-angle lens is a mirror which reflects the image at a sixty-degree angle in reverse; for indoor or night photography a 500-watt illuminator is set on top of the camera, revolving with it and throwing a narrow beam of light.

#### Vaccine to Prevent Measles May Avert Epidemics in Army Camps

Discovery of a vaccine for measles, said to be effective for both children and adults, may result in protection for soldiers from fatal attacks of pneumonia, such as followed the outbreak of measles in military

camps during the first World War. Developed by Dr. Joseph Stokes, Jr., University of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Geoffrey Rake, Squibb Institute for medical research, this is the first vaccine for this disease.

now Brunsuck no.

#### Light Motor Bike Is Powered by Semi-Diesel



Two versions of the semi-Diesel motorcycle, above, offer economical transportation, particularly for "messenger fleets"

Powered by a singlecylinder, two-cycle engine of semi-Diesel type, a lightweight motor bicycle just introduced offers low-cost transportation for messenger service or for sport. The builder claims that it travels 150 to 165 miles on a gallon of low-grade gasoline. Both wheels are equipped with brakes, the single foot pedal operating the rear brake while the clutch, front-wheel brake and accelerator controls are at the fingertips. The engine has an internal clutch and two-speed transmission. neu Center Da

'Crash Pad' on Car Panel Reduces Injuries in Collision

Extending all the way across the top edge of the instrument panel, a resilient "crash pad" is designed to lessen the severity of bumps, bruises and injuries suffered in auto collisions. Made with a base of sponge rubber and covered with leather or other material matching the interior trim, the pad softens the impact if an occupant of the car is hurled against the front board. The idea is borrowed from the airplane, where similar pads are installed to guard pilots. The crash pad can be built into new cars or "buttoned on" the panel of recent models.

Bulging upper edge of instrument panel is "crash pad" that absorbs shock if riders bump against it



#### Long Bus 'Jointed' in Center Bends as It Crosses Humps



"Knee joint" permits bus to arch in middle to keep all wheels on street

City transit buses elongated to carry as many passengers as streetcars can carry, require special construction for handling on narrow streets and around sharp curves. By dividing the bus in two sections, with a hinge and heavy rubber "knee joint" near the middle, the vehicle is allowed to bend up and down as it negotiates sharp grades of bridges and viaducts, and

win Coach Co

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shocks caused by rough pavement are thereby prevented from traveling between the front and rear sections. The bus body, however, does not curve as it turns a corner, but swings around as sharply as the shorter type because front and rear wheels are synchronized in steering so the rear wheels follow in the tracks of the front pair. In other words, the driver steers only the front wheels, a compressed-air device automatically operating the rear wheels. Electricity generated by a Diesel engine in the rear end propels a third axle and pair of wheels located in the center of the bus. Another model of the twin body unit is designed to operate as an electric trolley coach. A bus forty-seven feet long seats fifty-eight, with standing room for about sixty more passengers, as compared with seating capacity of forty in a

standard city bus.

### Target Airplane on Trolley Trains British Air Gunners

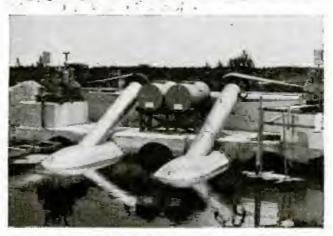


Portable camera gun and trolley target may be set up either indoors or outdoors for training aerial gun crews in defense against air raiders

One target used by Britain to train her air gunners is a model airplane running on wires. As the plane, suspended on a roller, is drawn past the gunner, he pulls the trigger of a camera gun at the instant the model enters the field which, in actual flight, would be the effective range of his gun. This sort of target practice speeds up training in the use of the service sights with which gunners must be familiar. It is usually done in the open, but if weather is bad the target ean be converted for indoor use.

#### 100,000-Gallon Pumps Reclaim Rich Farms from Jungle

Sixteen thousand acres of potentially rich farmland have been reclaimed from the Everglades jungles of Florida by a drainage system that employs a series of huge pumps—six of them having a six-foot



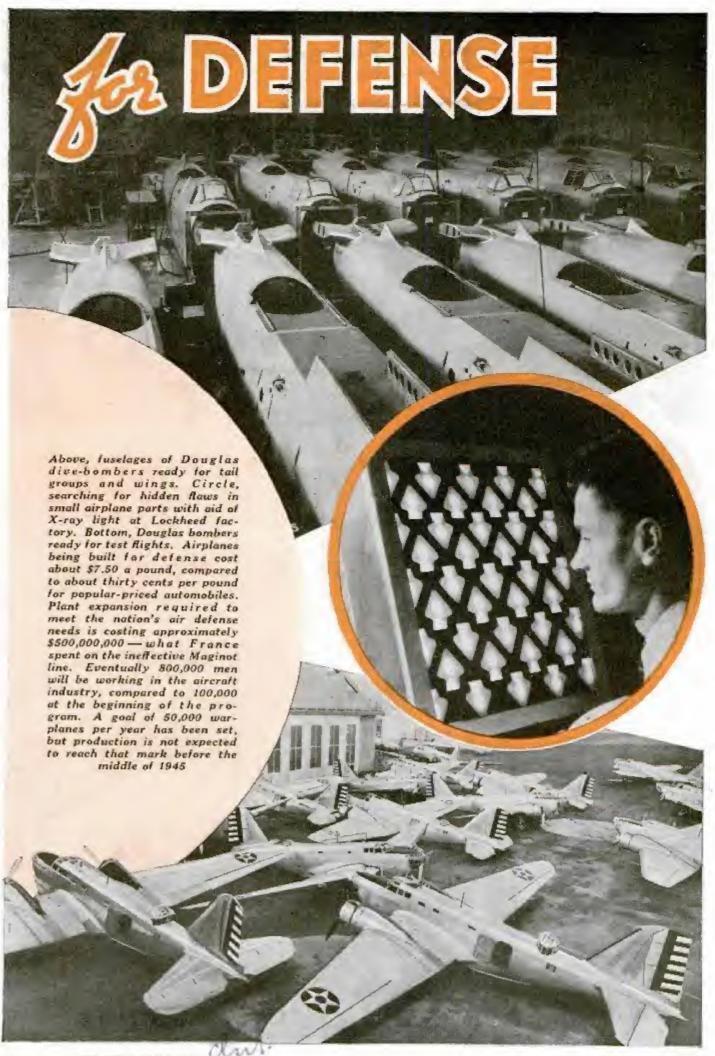
Each of these Diesel-driven pumps has a capacity of 100,000 gallons per minute

discharge diameter and a capacity of 100,000 gallons per minute each. Altogether there are twenty-two pumps with a combined capacity of 930,000 gallons per minute. The area at the start was waste land, largely under water, and required a water-control system that would drain off excess, retain the moisture in dry seasons, and also shut off the penetration of salt water into the canals at high tides. The tract was cut into 200 diked and ditched eighty-acre island farms, each one a separately drained and water-controlled unit. Dams on the canals were constructed so that drainage proceeded during low tides but the gates automatically shut out tidewater when the tide was high. The 100,000gallon pumps are driven by six-cylinder Diesel engines with a multiple V-belt drive.

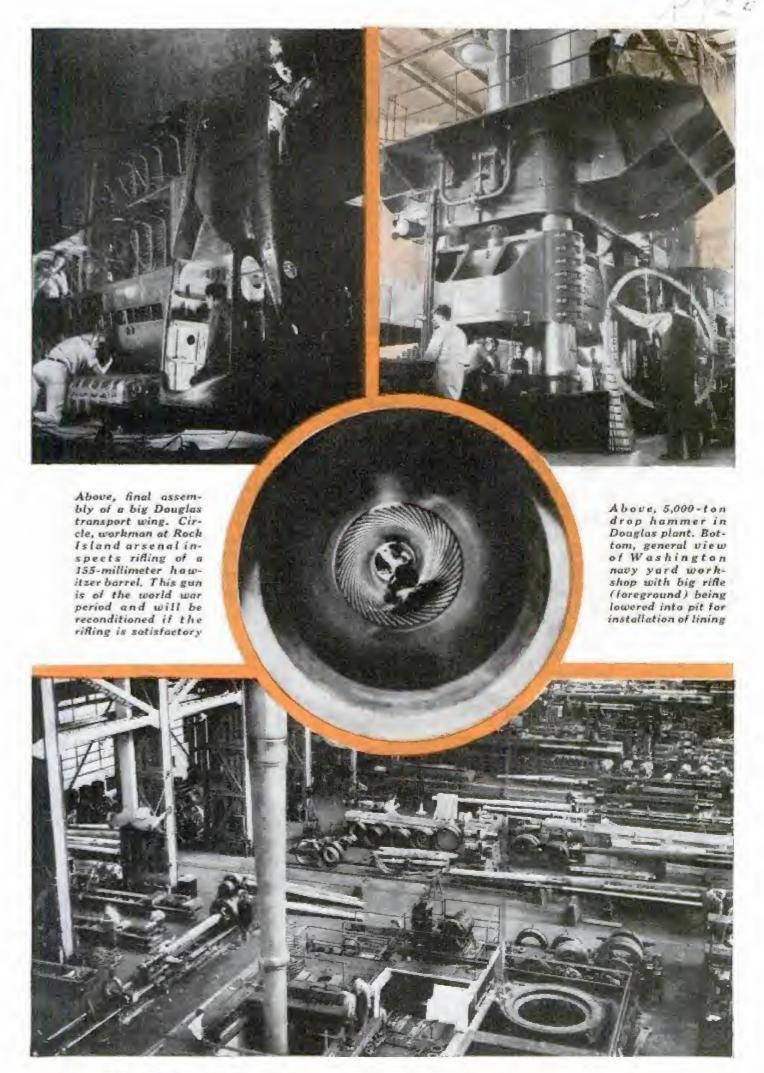
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#### Rope Lowers Aerial Riders If Car Is Stalled

Passengers on the Swiss. Santis aerial tramway, which reaches a height of 8,346 feet, need not fear being stranded long in the air if the car stalls somewhere along its ten-minute route. They may be transferred to a cabin brought alongside, but a more exciting way out, in case of emergency, is to descend by means of a special harness and rope found in a locker beneath the floor of the cabin. Usually two cars are operated simultaneously on pairs of parallel wires serving as tracks, one car going up as the other comes down, balancing each other.

Here is how passengers may get back to earth if aerial car on Swiss Santis cableway should become stalled. A rope with special harness provides a safe descent



#### Empty Trailer Rides on Truck to Save Gas on Steep Climb

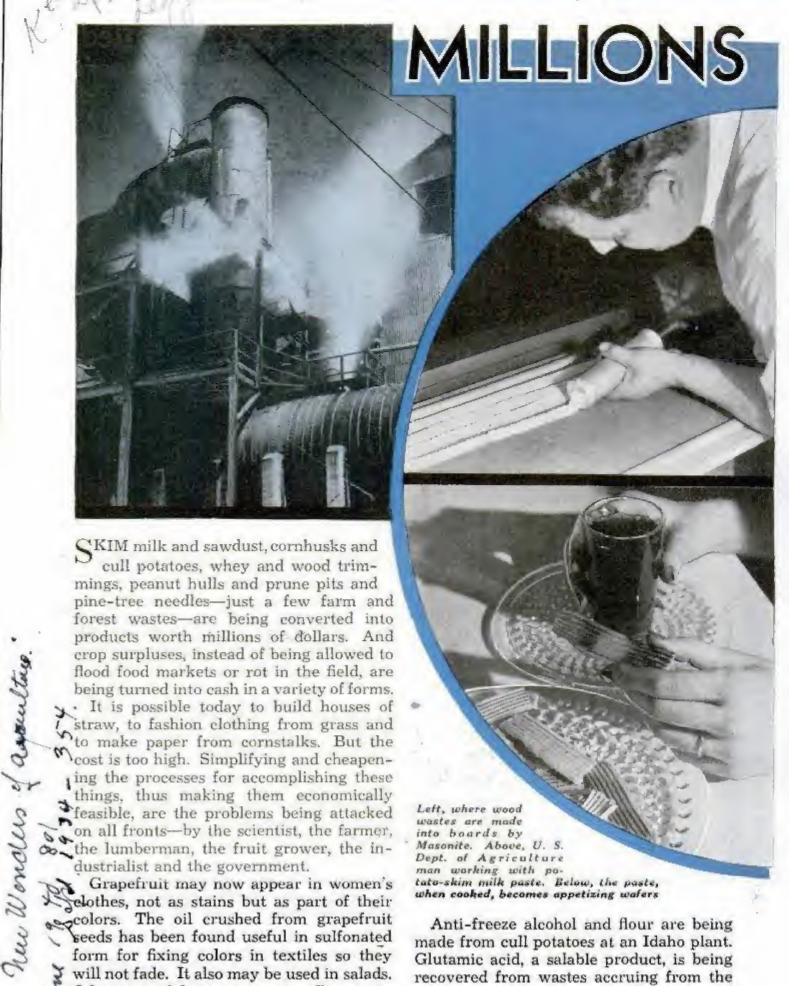
Logging trucks of one company have been equipped to pick up and carry their own/trailers back over mountain trails to

Laran Logging G Rente ( Bremerted Wash

Truck saves severe wear on both tires and working parts by carrying empty trailer instead of towing it up rocky roads

the logging camp after unloading the timber at the water's edge. Because of the steep, rocky roads through the woods, the

task of towing a heavy, fourwheeled trailer on the return trip was made more arduous by loss of traction which caused slipping and sliding that resulted in excessive wear on both the tires and the truck mechanism. It was to give the trucks better traction that the pickaback plan was devised. Each\_ truck now has a special carrier and a simple winch device for loading the trailer onto the truck: a similar method being used to unload it at the scene of logging operations. Weighted with the trailer, the trucks make the return trip in less time, with a considerable saving in fuel and tires.



Grapefruit may now appear in women's elothes, not as stains but as part of their colors. The oil crushed from grapefruit seeds has been found useful in sulfonated form for fixing colors in textiles so they will not fade. It also may be used in salads. Oil extracted from prune pits offers similar possibilities and oil crushed from grape or raisin seeds can be employed in paint

and varnish.

Anti-freeze alcohol and flour are being made from cull potatoes at an Idaho plant. Glutamic acid, a salable product, is being recovered from wastes accruing from the processing of beet sugar in Ohio, Apples ground to a pulp and mixed with skim milk at a cost of one cent per pound form a new food apple milk. Flavored, it makes

C. J' Jen Eyck POPULAR MECHANICS

when cooked, becomes appetizing wafers

## from WASTE



Left, towering stacks of finished boards produced from waste wood. Below, room with walls of the finished boards. Above, inspecting test panels of soybean-oil varnish

good candy; and for medicinal purposes, it contains ingredients already widely used for infant diarrhea.

Cornhusks are useful in more than a dozen products—bedding for stock, chair cushions, cloth, hats, door mats, fodder, horse collars, hot tamales, rugs, mattresses, oilcloth, polishing wheels and paper. From cornstalks, we can obtain cellulose—a material that ranks with basic metals in importance—building

blocks, charcoal, dietetic food, dynamite absorbent, > fiber, fuel, furfural, guneotton, lumber substitutes, oxalic acid, paper pulp board, rayon, wallboard and other valuable things. Even the pith from cornstalks is useful, having been employed in making absorbent, face powder, gunpowder, insulating lining for refrigerators, linoleum, novelty pottery, packing for wooden war vessels, pipe covering, varnish and other products.

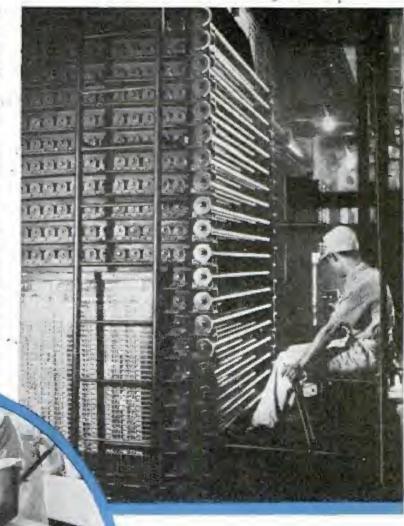
Waste from wood-pulp mills is being utilized in





fifty million tons of wood waste per year, as a result of its lumbering activities. The charcoal is made from wood to which a tar is added, resulting in a "wood coke" strong enough to withstand the pressure of tons of ore in a blast furnace.

From sugarcane bagasse, the residue left after extraction of the juice, chemists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture have produced a plastic compound which they estimate can be made for less than half the cost of the cheapest synthetic plastic compound on the market. Thus plastics may be used in the manufacture of furniture, building materials and automobiles, since the raw material would



Above, racks loaded with blankets of wood material on way to press for conversion into boards. Circle, whey draining off in cheese manufacture. Below, wallboard made from soybeans

cost less than that of materials now used.

One of the gigantic problems to which science has turned its attention is the utilization of approximately thirty billion quarts of skim milk, buttermilk, cheese whey and casein whey, all left-over materials accruing from the annual production of cream, butter, cheese and casein. Only about six billion quarts are converted

(Continued to page 146A)

#### Magnetic 'Football Players' Illustrate Strategy of Game



Football coach uses this metal board and magnetic pieces representing men to teach strategy of game

As an aid in demonstrating various strategic plays and formations to his players, the University of Kansas football coach has invented a portable board made of metal that takes the place of the common blackboard used extensively by football and basketball coaches. Players are represented on a forty-by-forty inch field by doughnut-shaped pieces lined with magnets to make them stick readily wherever they are placed on the steel board. The "ball" is distinguished from the "players" by its smaller size and oval shape. The device may be taken on tours and set up inside a bus, railroad car or airplane.

#### Driving Glasses Dark at Edges Cut Glare as Head Is Tilted

Night driving is easier on the eyes with a pair of goggles having lenses which are



Night driving glasses with clear center and dark edges reduce headlight glare when head is tilted

crystal clear in the center but become dark toward the edges, gradually increasing to a deep black at the rim. It is possible for the driver wearing them to reduce the glare from headlights by tilting his head slightly, yet this does not impede his vision through the center of the lens, which may be kept focused on his own side of the road.

#### Meter Charts Bumps per Mile on Surface of Highway

Construction of roads with a minimum of rough surface is aided by a meter that records on a moving chart the approximate location of bumps on the highway and also indicates their severity. Mounted under the cowl of an automobile, the meter has a



Pen of meter mounted under cowl records up-anddown motion of car, showing road's actual bumps

of the left front wheel. Vertical motion of the arm caused by bumps moves a pen to record the bumps per mile.

#### Cleaner Stops Electric Sparks by "Lubricating" Contacts

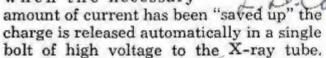
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Sparking between electric contact points is quenched with a liquid that cleans and lubricates the contacts without producing resistance to the current. When applied to switches, commutators or slip rings it removes grease and stops sparks immediately, eliminating the need for scraping with sand or emery paper. Electrical parts so treated will not collect dirt. The lubricant is of particular value around grain elevators, mills and chemical industries where sparks might cause fires and explosions.

J. O. Spopular MECHANICS

#### X-Ray Clinic in Trailer Serves at War Front

Lives of many soldiers wounded in action will be saved with the help of a traveling X-ray laboratory that can make radiographic records of hundreds of patients a day near the battle front: where hospital facilities are out of reach. Contained in a twenty-twofoot trailer, the compact X-ray equipment, built by Westinghouse X-Ray company, is equal in efficiency to that of many American hospitals. If no outside electric power is available, a miniature built-in power station uses the truck's engine to build up X-ray charges as high as 90,000 volts. A newly developed condenser-discharge machine stores up the voltage, fed in small quantities from an electric generator, and when the necessary





Inspecting trailer-housed X-ray clinic, equipped with power station to develop own current close to front lines, where it will aid the wounded

The trailer is divided into a lead-lined X-ray chamber and a darkroom for developing and studying radiographic pictures.

#### Twin-Engine Interceptor Plane Flies 500 Miles an Hour



Army men call this the world's fastest fighting plane. It lands at seventy miles an hour, has gasoline capacity for a cruise of 1,100 miles

One of America's deadliest contributions to war in the air is the new Lockheed interceptor, a twinengine plane reported to have a speed of 500 miles an hour. Built to chase bombers out of the sky, it can climb 4,000 feet a minute. The Lockheed "P-38" carries a onepound rapid fire cannon and five machine guns. It has a forty-two-foot wing span and is thirty-eight feet long. If it lives up to its reputation of bettering eight miles a minute, it is probably the world's fastest warplane.

# Keeping a BIG BRIDGE



Left, directing traffic on Golden Gate bridge from electrical control booth. Above, portable wind recorder mounted on automobile hood is moved to various locations on bridge to check wind velocities. Below, an engineer inspects cable 740 feet above the water

Courtesy Redwood Empire Association

JHAT holds a big bridge up? Not the towers and cables that support it but its engineers. The minute a great bridge is finished the engineering staff starts a never-ending battle to keep it from falling down.

One bitter day Russell G. Cone, engineer in charge of the Golden Gate bridge that spans the entrance of San Francisco Bay, made an emergency inspection tour. A seventy-five-mile hurricane was pounding his mile-long structure. In the wind the bridge sounded like a gigantic orchestra. Steel suspender ropes hummed and screamed, lighting standards howled, and the girders under the deck kept up a muffled roar. Walking was dangerous and foot traffic had been stopped. Automobiles weaved from side to side as their drivers fought the gale.

Sighting along the roadway 220 feet above the water. Cone saw that the bridge had bent out of shape. The middle of the span was ten feet out of line, curved out by the wind. But he was pleased instead of alarmed. The world's greatest bridge, the "bridge that couldn't be built," was bending with the wind as had been planned.

The west side of the Golden Gate bridge is heavier than the east side because the prevailing wind blows off the ocean and necessitates a



Red dery ci



The 6,450-foot suspension bridge, top, cost \$35,000,000. Painters (right) go over every inch of it periodically. Lower left, yard-thick cable bends over tower and holds up bridge deck by suspender ropes; right, wire ropes connected to steel eyebolts buried in concrete anchorage block



critical one. Paint can be destroyed by the elements. Heat and cold, wind, rain, fog, and salt corrosion attack the paint. Against these forces of nature Engineer Cone and his staff of trained bridgemen wage a spectacular battle.

Part of their campaign is a regular patrol of the whole structure. Every vital part is inspected, from the tops of the towers to the underground caverns where the cables fan out and tie in to the great concrete anchor blocks. Rivets are examined, roadway expansion joints are lubricated, and the paint coat scrutinized. A fresh coat for this bridge requires 780 tons of paint. Although a complete coat is expected to last five years the work is never finished.

To watch a painting crew at work you enter an elevator in one of the towers. Your hearing dulls with the changes of altitude during the eight-minute ride to the top, 746 feet above the water. Down below, where cars driving across the bridge appear like small black beetles, the weath-

er is pleasant but up here you grip the handrail against the stiff cold wind. The cups of the wind recorder blur with speed.

Curving down from the top of the tower are the yard-thick cables that support the roadway below. Wearing non-skid shoes, the painters climb up and down the cables to their working areas. Each man snaps a life line to one of the taut steel ropes that stretches above the cables. If he slips he will fall only a few feet instead of a seventh of a mile. To paint the vertical suspender ropes the men lower themselves from the cable on bosuns' chairs.

Down under the roadway another crew is repainting the underside of the bridge. Working from a wide traveling scaffold suspended below the deck, the men clean off the old paint and the mill scale with air-driven chipping hammers, burn the surface with wide oxyacetylene torches, wire brush the metal, and apply the priming coat of paint. The paint is brushed on by hand, using vertical strokes on vertical surfaces to assist the runoff of rain and moisture. The second coat is tinted darker than the first so that skipped areas can be seen. The top finish coat is of international orange.

New coats of paint at the bases of the towers, where the exposure is especially severe, are tested after they are dry by sweeping the surfaces with a thick brush of fine wire that is connected through a high-frequency coil and a buzzer to the ground. If the bristles find bare steel the buzzer sounds a warning.

Shady and sunny areas, horizontal and vertical faces, each receive different mixtures of paint. Every square inch of the 83,000 tons of structural steel in the bridge except the portions that are buried in concrete receive periodic inspection and care. More than half a dozen different paint formulas are used, ranging from coal-tar primers on steel at the tower bases to red lead, copper base, chlorinated rubber, carbon black in oil, and pigmented lead paints.

An average of thirty painters are on the staff and in addition riggers, electricians, fire and tow-truck servicemen, as well as toll collectors, guards, and office workers are employed. The electricians have charge of the 150 K.V.A. standby emergency generator set that automatically takes over the lighting load within a few seconds if the regular 11,000-volt power supply fails. In addition, they have charge of the elevators in the bridge towers, maintain the private telephone system that has sixteen stations, and guard the navigation and avigation lights on the bridge. One of the towers has a full-fledged lighthouse built into its base, channel lights mark the middle of the span, and revolving beacons on the tower tops and cable-outline lights show aviators the location of the bridge.

Not everyone can work comfortably in high places and the bridgemen eat a special diet to avoid any chance of their becoming dizzy while they are at work. The danger from inhaling lead fumes is the greatest hazard that the painters face and they wear breathing masks when working in confined spaces inside the towers. Each man receives a periodic health examination and those who seem to be absorbing dangerous quantities of lead are put on high vitamin diets.

One of the strangest occupational injuries of the bridgemen has been the bruised arms and elbows received by the collectors at the toll gate. Accepting money from a driver, a collector was apt to

(Continued to page ISIA)

Small-Size Garden Tractor Uses Pint of Gas an Hour



Even a child can operate this garden tractor that plows, mows or cultivates field at walking pace

All the power needed for plowing truck, nursery and greenhouse gardens is supplied by a walking-type tractor that a child could operate. Its one-horsepower engine can be throttled down to two-thirds of a mile per hour for light work such as shallow cultivating of small plants, or it will operate at two to three and one-third miles an hour for larger plants. The tractor also will moy, or run belt machinery.

#### Clamp to Shut Off Water Hose Saves Fire Fighter's Time

Precious moments in fighting a fire can be saved by the use of a hand clamp for shutting off charged hoses that need replacement. Cutting off the water under pressure at any point on the



hose eliminates the necessity for running back to the pumper or hydrant. Downward pressure on the handle automatically locks the jaws. The clamp is a convenience whenever it is necessary to add hose, replace a broken hose or relieve pressure when carrying hose to the top of a ladder.

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DECEMBER, 1940

## Truck Serves as Mobile Base for Army Observation Balloon



A winch mounted behind the cab handles more than 4,000 feet of steel cable anchoring the observation balloon to its mobile base

Observation balloons of the U.S. Army are accompanied by trucks which serve both as mobile mooring masts and

eleven-ton anchors. A winch mounted at the rear of the truck cab and powered by a 125-horsepower motor raises and lowers the balloon by means of a steel cable more than 4,000 feet long. The balloons are used for "spotting" the fire of the big guns. They have interchangeable motor gondolas and observation baskets, and within ten minutes can switch from a motor-driven air-ship to a captive balloon. A fleet of trucks carries equipment and spare parts for maintenance and repair of the balloons.

#### Knock-Free Fuel Would Double Mileage or Engine Power

When gasoline can be produced entirely free from knock, it should not be hard to

get either double the present-day mileage or double the power per gallon, but not both, in the opinion of T. A. Boyd, of General Motors Research laboratories. An engine burning such a fuel probably would be of much smaller displacement than that of today. At present, fuels have an octane number of about seventy, costing about five cents a gallon to produce. It is pointed out that even if it would cost twice as much to manufacture gasoline with 100octane number, the car owner still would get more "miles per dollar" with the higher-price gas.

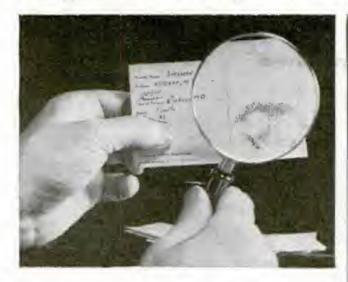
#### Cleansing Tissue Stored in Handy Car Dispenser

Another home convenience for the automobile is an inexpensive dispenser for cleansing tissue which fits under the glove compartment in the Pontiac. New boxes of tissue are inserted easily into the container from which sheets may be taken one at a time as needed.

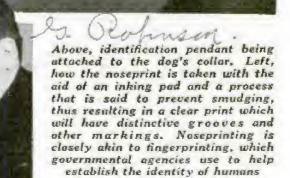


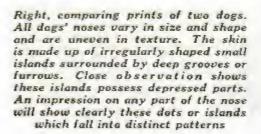
Dispenser keeps supply of cleansing tissue within easy reach of driver or front-seat passenger

Dogs Are Noseprinted as Aid to Identification



Noseprinting of dogs, as an aid to identification, is just coming into use. Above, the magnifying glass is employed to reveal details of noseprint on identification card, which the dog will carry on his collar. This card contains complete information that will be useful if the animal becomes lost or stolen. In addition, reference to the noseprint files will enable an owner to identify his dog in case of disputes





## RUBBER "GROWN"

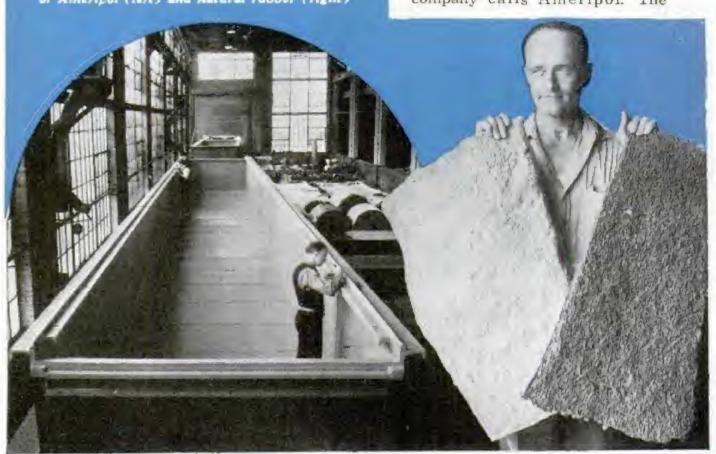


Top, buna emerges as a liquid; it is a synthetic rubber product of petroleum cracking. Below, lining a tank with Korossal for handling acids; right, sheets of Americal (left) and natural rubber (right)

PRODUCTION of synthetic rubber in large quantities is an important phase of America's defense program, in that this country soon may be freed from dependency upon foreign supplies of natural rubber. About ninety per cent of the imported rubber comes from the war-involved East Indies.

Already government officials have conferred with companies owning or controlling syntheticrubber processes, several of which have been developed beyond the experimental stage, and plans are being worked out for construction of plants where the man-made rubber may be produced. Its conversion into automobile tires and other products may be accomplished with standard machinery, necessitating no changes in present plant equipment. Processes controlled by Goodrich, du Pont and Standard Oil of New Jersey are now in production.

Goodrich today is making tires from synthetic rubber which the company calls Ameripol. The



in FACTORIES

While synthetic rubber is "masticated" by rollers of mixing mill (upper left) sulphur, carbon black and pigments are added. Right, a tire of Ameripol, identical in appearance to natural-rubber casing. Bottom, curds of synthetic rubber rise to top of vat



basic material is petroleum, a black, sticky substance which is broken down by "cracking" into a mixture of simple molecules. From this mixture can be separated a gas which under pressure liquefies to give butadiene. This is mixed with other ingredients prepared from natural gas and air. and then made into a milky emulsion, using soap produced from American agricultural sources. Upon heating and agitation, these ingredients react to form an emulsion or synthetic rubber quite similar to the latex obtained from rubber trees. From here on, the process of obtaining a sheeted rubber is like that used for natural rubber.

. Under a licensing agreement

(Continued to page 134A)

### Screen Powered by Motor Sifts Ten Times Faster

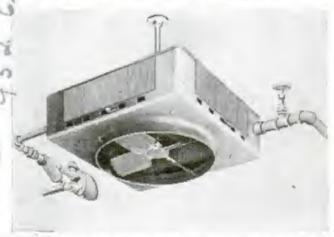


Electric screen, shaken by a rotating head connected with motor, quickly sifts material shoveled into it

Driven by a one-sixth horsepower motor, an electrically agitated screen is said to be ten times more effective than working by hand. Material on the riddle is subjected to a speedy screening action by a gyrating head driven by the motor.

#### Fan Spreads Steam-Heated Air from Ceiling Fixture

Heated air is blown downward to warm the room from a combination fan and



Steam heater has fan to blow warm air toward floor

steam-heated unit that hangs from the ceiling. The heater consists of coiled tubing, fitted with inlet and outlet connections, through which steam flows. Air drawn in from all sides by the electric fan is heated as it passes the tubing, and then is sent floorward where it spreads out evenly. Motor and fan assembly may be removed for inspection or service without disconnecting the steam pipes. Besides heating rooms the unit may be used to dry clothes or commercial products.

#### Airplane Landed by Parachute from 500-Foot Height

Showing how disabled planes may be brought down without crashing if properly equipped, Jimmy Goodwin, of Newport, Ky., landed an airplane by parachute



At a height of 500 feet from the ground this plane opened a fifty-two-foot parachute for a safe landing

recently as a special feature of an air meet in Maine. For making the unconventional descent, the craft carried a 'chute fifty-two feet in diameter which was opened 500 feet above the ground.

### Signal Worked by Car Reduces Speed in Town

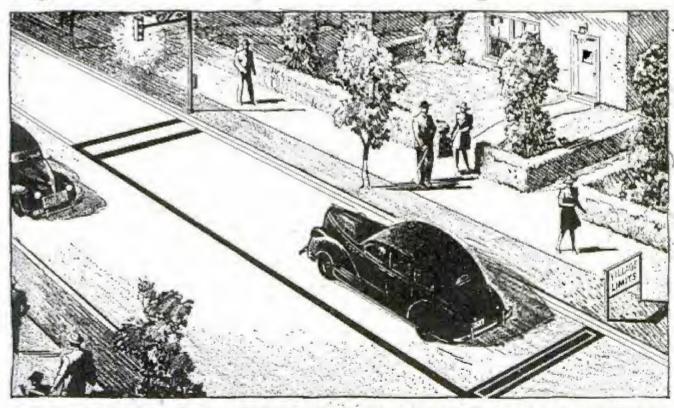


Diagram shows how cars entering town must slow to safe speed before they reach stop-and-go light.

Signal remains red until car passes over switch, then after brief wait it changes to green for the state of the st

Automobiles entering either of two Delaware towns at excessive speeds are slowed down by a traffic signal which they operate themselves. The detector, connected by wires to the signal, is embedded in the right-hand lane of the highway about 200 feet in advance of the signal, which normally displays a red light. When a car passes over the detector, a delayed-action control is set in motion that changes the

signal from red to green after a lapse of several seconds, this delay being equal to the number of seconds required for the vehicle to travel the 200 feet at the maximum speed fixed for safe entrance into the town. Thus if he travels too fast the driver must wait for the "go" light when he reaches the signal; but if he reduces his speed sufficiently, the light will change from red to green just as he reaches it.

#### Air-Powered Machine Gun Fires 10,000 Shots a Minute

Instead of firing its bullets with noisy explosions, a silent machine gun, invented by William B. Hale and Durand Beam, shoots with compressed-air power. In recent tests the rifle, which resembles a sub-machine gun, discharged 10,000 shots a minute, reducing three-inch oak planks to kindling and turning airplane armor plate into steel mosquito netting. As firing starts, the barrel cools, instead of heating, due to use of air as the propelling power.

Silent rifle powered by compressed air instead of gunpowder is shown at right with steel target riddled by bullets in test



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### Outboard Boat Fitted for War with a Torpedo Sling on Deck



Preparing to fire a dummy torpedo with the "sling shot" coil spring arrangement built on deck of an outboard racing boat for a demonstration.

How a fleet of outboard racing boats could be converted into a fleet of torpedo boats for harbor protection in wartime

was demonstrated recently at Long Beach, Calif. One of the little outboards was fitted with a torpedo rack on its deck, from which a small dummy torpedo was launched with a simple coil spring.

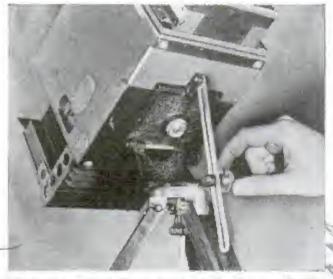
#### Goldfish Save Work for Chemist by Keeping Jar Clean

Once a research chemist spent seven hours a week keeping a certain glass jar clean, but now three goldfish, costing thirty cents, do the work without one penny of expense. The jar is used in a General Electric laboratory to keep a constant temperature bath for measuring viscosity in plastic materials. The inside of this jar had a tend-

ency to collect a sticky scum, which had to be removed by scouring once or twice a week, because it was necessary to make frequent observations of what took place in glass tubes inserted into the bath. After trying acids which failed to do the work, the chemist used snails, but these died when the temperature of the water rose. By chance he bought the three goldfish and put them in the jar. They set to work and within two or three days the scum had disappeared. Since then the jar has remained clean. The fish find food in the work they do, so it is unnecessary to feed them.

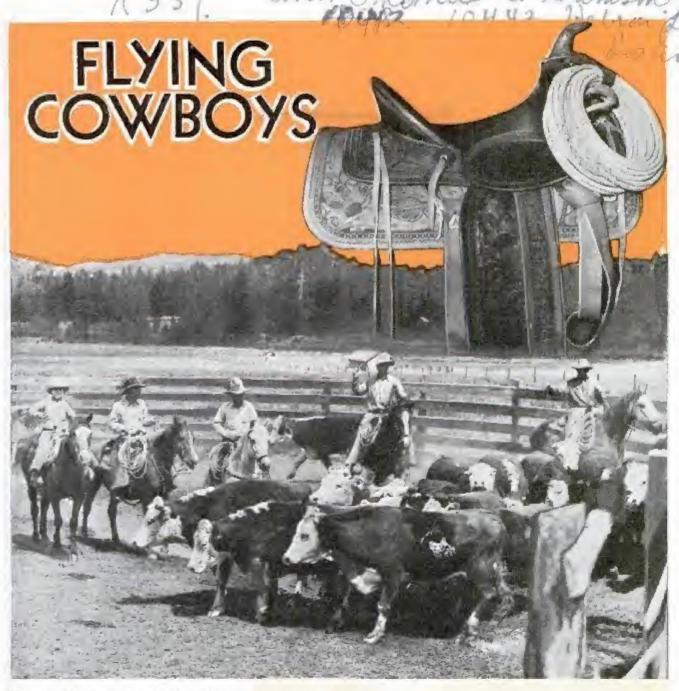
#### Tilting Top Swings Camera in Arc of 90 Degrees

Lightweight but strong, a metal tilting head made to fit all standard tripods permits the camera to be swung in a full ninety-degree arc from vertical to horizontal, holding any position rigidly. It is built to support any camera from the miniature type to a heavy five-by-seven.



Camera is slanted for a steep angle shot on the tilting head that fits on a standard tripod

POPULAR MECHANICS



Top, right, modern stock saddle. Center, preparing to ship fattened steers. Bottom, unloading saddles from small plane used for scouting and transporting equipment

A BAND of renegade cattle was at large in the mountains and the cowpunchers knew they had a fight on their hands. The wild animals were too valuable and too dangerous to abandon and it was going to be a tough job to capture them. Missing for more than a year, they had been located by a Forest Service pilot who had been asked to scout them from the air.

Plunging through the rocks and brush, wild cattle are faster than horses over short





Cal Godshall photos

distances. A big animal can jump a seven-foot fence, and in spite of its awkward appearance it makes amazing speed. Weighing close to a ton, a snorting charging steer can knock down a horse and kill the rider. A man on foot wouldn't stand a chance against it and even an experienced mounted cowhand needs a partner. The trick in capturing one is for two men to rope the animal so that if it charges one man the other can snub him to a halt.

When Cal Godshall of the C-Bar-G ranch near Victorville in California finds that some of his cattle have turned wild on the summer mountain range he organizes a special roundup to bring them in. Modern breeds of cattle are inherently gentle but now and then an animal, possibly a throw-back by nature, turns wild after roaming for a few months. Other cattle follow the renegade and soon a band of smart and wary animals is on the loose. Capturing them is an adventure in itself, then comes the task of gentling them.

"If we have some tame cattle in the hills we lash one of the wild animals to a gentle one," Godshall explains. "The tame animal acts as an anchor every time the wild one tries to get away and by the time they have been driven down to the winter range the renegade has forgotten that he once acted like a four-legged tornado.

"Another way to take the fight out of a wild animal is to tie it to a husky sapling for the night. The bending tree gives with each of

> his lunges but the farther he moves the greater is the strain against him and by sun-up he has gentled himself. If we don't have time for that remedy another method is to tie a yardlong chain to one of the ankles. The chain drags harmlessly as long as the animal walks along calmly but as soon as he



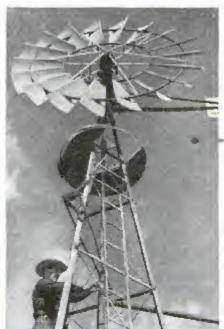
Top, modern riding horse bit made of cast aluminum compared to oldstyle iron bit hanging on wall. Center, short dull spurs of today (in lower hand) compared to sharp spurs (upper hand); chain bit hangs on wall. Bottom, loading horse into truck for trip to range

starts to run the chain wraps around his legs and hobbles him down."

Life on the cattle ranges is much the same as it was in the heyday of the West although the modern cowboy has been able to adapt many of the developments of industry to his special needs. Not every ranch has its own airplane although airplanes are often pressed into service, especially after storms that drift the herds away from their own ranges. Snow or rain beats out their trails. An observer in an airplane can find the cattle in a few hours where it might take weeks of searching from the ground. The cattle may be loaded into trucks and trailers for the trip home. If they are bunched in rough country the cowboys load their riding horses in the trucks and drive as close as they can. then use their horses for herding the cattle back to the ranch.

The cowboy's horse is

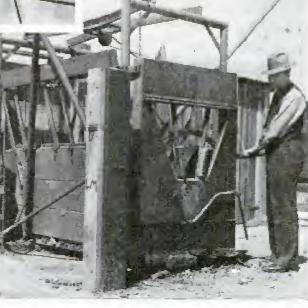




still his most valuable tool and a good one may be worth several hundred dollars. He uses only four or five instead of twice as many, as in the old days, because the modern cow horse is a larger and stronger, more intelligent animal. Each horse is trained in its job and does more than its share of the work in cutting out animals from a herd or in keeping a rope tight to hold a thrown calf on the

(Continued to page 124A)





Top, branding horse on head with a painless chemical solution replaces old method of using a hot branding iron. Center, cowhand adjusting pump mechanism of windmill at a mechanical water hole. Bottom, left, preparing supper on the range with aid of cookhouse trailer drawn by car or truck. Right, "squeeze" cage used as operating room for cattle. Its sides draw together and hold animal motionless

### Two-Way Heater for Any Car Fits under Seat



Both the front and rear of the car can be made comfortable for winter driving with an underthe-seat heater now on the market. A powerful seven-inch fan draws cold air from the floor and door crevices, then distributes it in all directions after it is heated. The heater can be installed in any car having a fore-and-aft passageway under the front seat.

Equal comfort is distributed by under-seat heater to occupants in front and rear sections of car. Air is drawn from floor which is usually the coldest spot

#### Conical Antenna for Television Starts Sending Pictures

Research is developing new equipment, making television transmitting apparatus obsolete almost before it is put into service. General Electric engineers have just installed a conical television antenna at the Helderberg station near Schenectady, for experimental use in transmitting the pictures on this winter's television programs.

At the right is the cage-like conical antenna being used in experimental television broadcasting from General Electric's Helderberg station. The antenna puts the pictures on the air



#### Silent Movie Camera Saves Time in Production of Sound Pictures



Silent gears and motors, along with other improvements in Hollywood's latest motion-picture camera, will result in saving thirty to forty hours in the ordinary twenty-four-day shooting schedule. It marks the end of the huge soundproof "blimps" which house the older movie cameras to prevent camera noises from being recorded on the sound track. The new camera is being used by Twentieth-Century Fox. It has an improved finder and remote control for focusing and uses coated lenses for better light transmission.

At left is the standard movie camera inclosed in its "blimp," compared with new time-saving, noiseless one

## Tri-Motor Speedboat Has Three Propellers



tri-motored racing hydroplane, in which each of three engines operates a separate propeller, the "Gray Goose III," built for George C. Cannon, is so constructed as to reduce the tendency to turn on straightaways. Proof of its performance came when the speedster set a world's record of 92.309 miles per hour for non-supercharged craft, and then tied for second place in the 1940 Gold Cup races, even though one engine failed to function. The "Gray Goose" has a novel three-point suspension hull with wide stabilizing fins which give forward support to compensate for distribution of power among three propellers. Three standard 175-horse-

power Lycoming racing engines operate with throttles so connected that pressure on a single foot pedal feeds them fuel at the same rate, except when making a turn when, contrary to what might be expected, the outer engine is slowed down automatically. There are three individual clutches, the driver operating two and the mechanic the third. Propeller throw is eliminated



by turning the center and starboard propellers in a right-hand direction and the port screw to the left, thus making the two outboard propellers counterbalance each other. Each engine has its own separate starter button, ignition switch, oil pressure gauge, water temperature indicator and tachometer on the instrument board. The craft weighs 3,450 pounds.

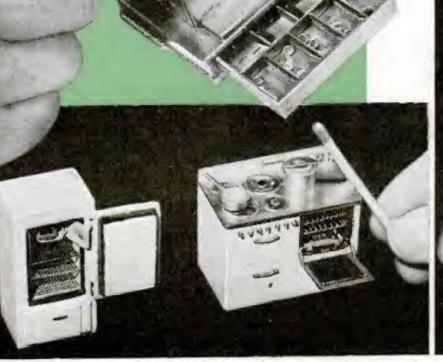
THEY'RE TINY-

THE boy looked at the tiny, exquisitely carved, jeweled bird, so small that it seemed only agleaming speck on his hand. He nodded to the Paris shopkeeper.

"I'll take it," he said. "I like tiny things. Sometimes I wonder just how small things can be, just how tiny a world could be made by human hands."

That was almost half a century ago. Today the world knows just how small things can be, just how delicately human fingers can work. For Jules Charbneau, who as a boy bought the jeweled bird in Paris, has collected perhaps the world's strangest assemblage of minute man-made objects.

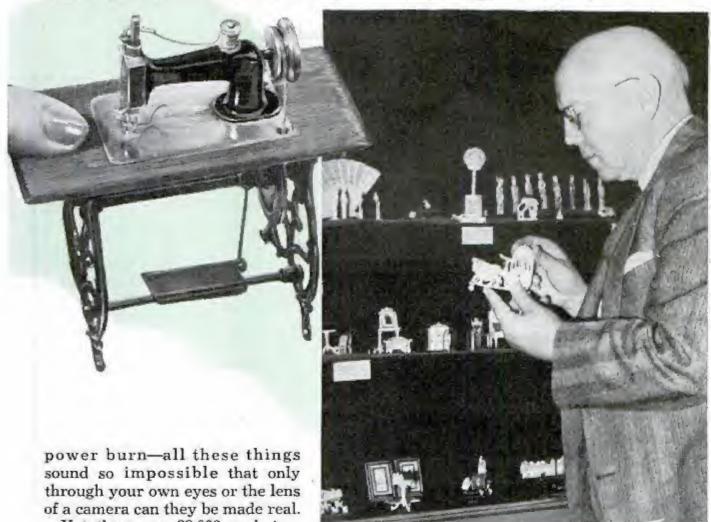
That a violin half the size of a man's little finger can play with a delicate sweet tone, that bread can be baked in an electric oven hardly more than an inch high and ice frozen in an electric refrigerator no larger, that an electric motor smaller than a match head can run or a globe of 1/1,000,000 candle-





Top, tiny model of Franklin's printing press. Center, cash register on which sales may be rung up with a toothpick. Bottom, left, electric refrigerator and range compared to a match. Right, tiny model of radial airplane motor

# BUT THEY WORK



Yet there are 28,000 such impossibilities in Charbneau's collection—a vase so small that it will not hold one drop of water, books which can be placed on a thumbnail with space left over, 3,000 golden spoons which fit into a hazelnut shell and twenty pairs of dressed fleas.

Many of the items were collected by Charbneau during four trips around the world. Dealers throughout the world know him, send him their choicest miniatures.

But Charbneau is more than a collector. The most astonishing of his items are creations of his own mind, creations which he has seen patient craftsmen bring into minute reality.

One day as he sat listening to his wife play the piano, he visualized a miniature piano, a piano less than an inch high, yet which would have a complete keyboard and could be played—should a be-



Top, left, midget sewing machine, with human finger at left illustrating its size, Right, Jules Charbneau with ivory carvings. Bottom, miniature piano, with thirty-six keys, being played with a toothpick in hand at left



ing with fingers tiny enough ever come from fairyland.

Charbneau went to Steinway and Sons, asked them if they could construct such a piano.

"We would like to," they told him. "We will give you all possible cooperation—but it can't be done."

But today there is such a piano. It is a model of a concert grand, accurate even to the casters under the legs. It can be played —with a toothpick.

Four craftsmen worked for six months on the piano. Unbelievably skilled fingers, working under powerful magnifying glasses, succeeded in creating this marvel of minute intricacy.

Also in the collection are 20,000 wood screws which fit into a thimble, and hammers, saws, planes, a screwdriver, a brace and bit, and a pair of pliers, which are kept in a chest about the size of a match box. The shaft of the hammer is as long as the first joint of a woman's little finger, the head of the hammer less than the width of a child's finger nail.

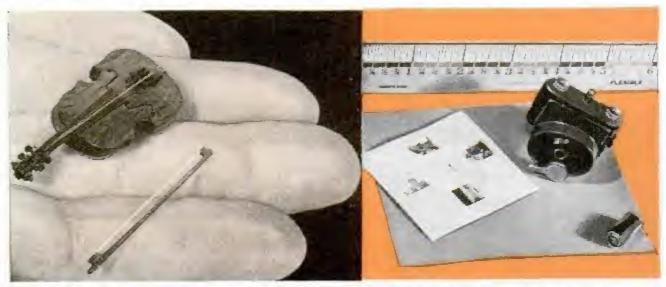
Even a rabbit whisker was too large to string the bow of Charbneau's one and five-eighth-inch model of a Stradivarius violin. So the craftsman who made the violin strung the bow with hairs from his mother's head. The violin has the same number of strings as a full-

sized instrument, and would be played in the same way if there were hands tiny enough to finger the strings. When played without fingering, it emits a very sweet, soft tone.

Everything Charbneau sees he visualizes in miniature—working miniature. A cash register inspired him to set craftsmen to work building one two inches high and two and a half inches wide. Yet if you press, say the two-dollar and three-dollar keys, a sale of five dollars will be rung up. The bell rings, too. And you've guessed it; there is tiny money in the drawer.

Many other familiar items of American life are found in the collection. There is a sewing machine which sews beautifully with a lock stitch, yet which is so small a human finger would cover the treadle.

(Continued to page 130A)



Top, chess set with ordinary cigarette leaning against tiny table. Bottom, left, miniature violin that can be played. Right, one of world's smallest cameras with pictures it makes (left) and film roll (right), lying on one piece of four-by-five film

Hay or Grain Loader Is Powered by Tractor

To save labor during the threshing season a South Dakota farmer invented a shock-loading machine for grain or hay. Resembling a common hay loader, it has a new type of elevator and a reel. Grain shocks are tipped by the reel onto the elevator conveying the bundles from the ground to the rack wagon. The loader operates with a power takeoff from its tractor. Primarily designed for loading grain shocks, the machine is also used in the hayfield. Six-inch tines set in the angle-iron crossbars of the elevating mechanism pick hay from the ground and keep it from rolling back. A metal bottom prevents leaves and bundles from dropping through the elevating chain.



This tractor-operated machine built by a South Dakota farmer picks up either grain shocks or hay and loads the rack wagon

## Radio-Controlled Target Boats Help Train Navy Bombers

Navy bombers have a new target boat at which they may dive and drop bombs without endangering lives. Controlled by radio from the cabin of one of the bombers the thirty-four-foot boat needs no operator aboard. It skims along at thirty-five-

miles an hour and is said to be unsinkable. It was developed for the navy by Chris-Craft. In wartime it could be used as a torpedo by loading it with high explosives and sending it crashing into a battleship.

Radio-controlled boat, without pilot, may take the place of suicide boats to blast battleships, or serve as bombing targets for navy flyers



Speedy Electric Saw and File Unit Will Fit on Any Small Power Drill

Attached to any small electric drill, from which it gets its power, a handy and accurate saw cuts through wood or metal in hard-to-get-at places where most other tools fail. By fitting it with a special chuck it will take a one-quarter-inch shank file and save time as a filing machine. The drill is held in the right hand and the saw unit guided with the left. Either saw or file works in any direction and at any angle, and is useful to electricians, plumbers, carpenters and mechanics.

Accurate saw or file, powered by electric drill, cuts to the line in any direction or at any angle

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## Twin Posts Let Plane Down to Easy Height for Servicing





To service the plane it is hoisted by twin posts, wheels are retracted, then it is lowered within easy reach of mechanic

Instead of climbing hazardous scaffolding to service airplane motors, the mechanic can lower the plane to a convenient height by means of a twinpost lift just brought out. The operation is similar to that of the greasing lift in the automobile service station. With the wheels retracted, the airplane can be let down nearly to the floor. The lifts are oper-

ated either pneumatically or by electric motor.

#### Dew Revealed as Spoiler of Auto Body Finish

For many years sunshine has been believed to be the main cause of the tarnishing of auto body finishes, but evidence gathered recently indicates that some mysterious action of dew is to blame. Dew was first suspected when investigations showed that the worst paint "failures" occurred during months of least sunshine, and that exposure from midnight to noon when dew was present showed more failure than exposure from noon to midnight. Then followed the development of a new dew meter which, according to Ralph J. Wirshing of the General Motors Research laboratories, has served to confirm the suspicion that sunshine rates second to dew in destructive effects on automobile paints and lacquers.

#### Fast Army Tractor Pulls Five-Ton Load at Fifty

One of the answers to the demand for a military tractor that can "take it" under all sorts of road conditions, is a six-and-onehalf ton, four-wheel drive vehicle propelled by a seventy-five-horsepower six-cylinder engine, developed by Minneapolis-Moline power implement company. With a five-ton load in tow, such as a 155-mm, howitzer, its top road speed is forty to fifty miles an hour, and it can haul its burden up a forty-per-cent incline. Air brakes are operated by foot pedal, and a hand brake lever enables the operator to brake or lock either rear wheel. A front rollerbumper twelve inches in diameter helps ease the way over obstructions and across ditches. In tests the tractor smashed a path through a grove of trees up to three inches thick. It has a forty-inch fording depth and can tilt sidewise to fiftyeight degrees without toppling.



Rugged army tractor can travel over roughest terrain or keep up with caravan at fifty miles an hour with howitzer in tow

# INDUSTRY

QUICK to adopt machines and methods with which products may be improved and sold, American industry is turning more and more to photography. Indeed, some large companies use more motion-picture film in a year than is required in the making of a Hollywood "super-colossal" epic.

Yet not one foot of the industrial film may have the slightest "box-office" appeal. Instead, it is employed by engineers as a valuable aid in creating a better automobile, a faster locomotive, a more economical refrigerator or a new lightweight steel possessing unusual qualities.

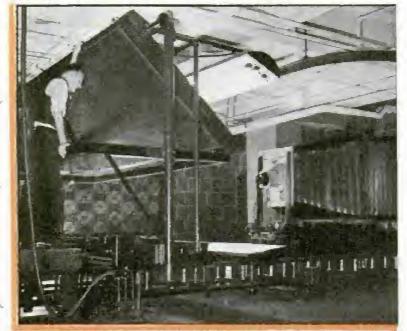
The automotive industry, for instance, finds the camera has innumerable uses: from aerial photographs of manufacturing plants to microscopic sections showing the molecular structure of steel,

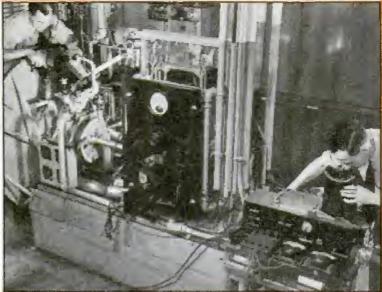




Top, photographing moving gears with stroboscopic illumination. Center, attaching telltale lights so each will trace moving line of light across photographic plate (botline of wheel light indicating spring action







Courtesy Chevrolet Motor Div.

Top, some of giant equipment used in industry. Center, ar-

top, some of giant equipment used in industry. Center, drrangement for studying fuel combustion in one-cylinder engine by using high-speed camera. Bottom, mounting section of enlargement on plywood in making photo mural from beautiful advertising illustrations to thousands of prosaic but important record pictures of small parts, from hundreds of "story-telling" newspaper shots to intricate laboratory pictures of the interior of engine combustion chambers.

Still pictures, movies, photomicrographs, even "television" apparatus, all are playing a part in assisting the development of important mechanical improvements in the automobile.

In the metallurgical laboratory of the Chevrolet forge plant, polished steel samples are studied and photographed under a powerful microscope in order to keep a constant check on the structure and quality of steel from which crankshafts and other parts are made. Through their photographic libraries, metallurgists keep a year-to-year record of different grades of metal, showing their fatigue capacities resulting from various kinds of processing.

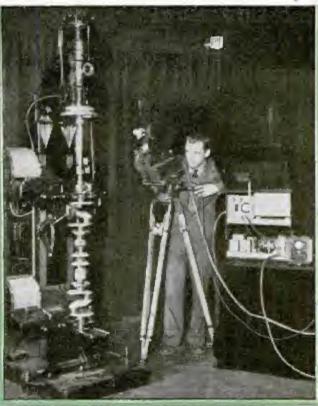
In combination with the microscope or other instruments, the camera permits the auto maker to study accurately many parts of the car not possible to observe with the human eye. Fast-action cameras click thousands of times before the manufacturer is ready to present a new steering-post gear shift or a new transmission.

Special acoustics studies of the





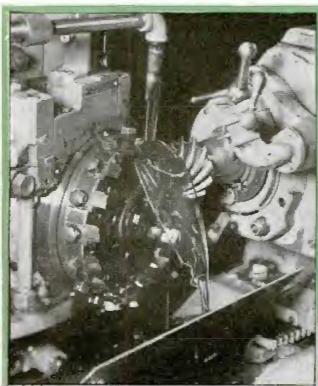
Left, photographer holds miniature camera in front of giant camera to show range in sizes of cameras used in auto industry. Right, making high-speed mavie of crankshaft in motion on balancing machine



nature of sound waves inside the automobile, such as those made by Plymouth to improve the riding qualities, are made with the oscillograph—a cathode-ray tube similar to those used in television, which records for the movie camera actual pictures of sound waves in motion. Study of these films enables engineers to select proper soundproofing materials.

One of the newest branches of photography, natural color, is being utilized extensively by the automotive industry. Chevrolet recently presented its product to its field force through one of the largest series of natural-color film slides ever made. Fast-lens miniature cameras, like those employed by advanced amateurs, are often used to make "candid" pictures of sales meetings. Copies of engineering drawings are made on one of the largest cameras in the world—a camera so big that the operators actually load films and even develop them while standing within the body of

(Continued to page 137A)



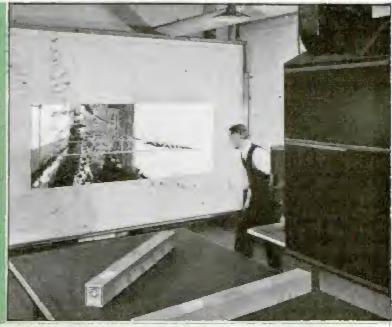


Photo at left, courtesy Pontine Motor Div. Left, fast photolight, in 30,000th of a second, "freezes" oil so it appears as solid sheet. To naked eye the oil appears to cover gear and grinding teeth. Right, making a mural

KMI O.

Fish Locked in Landing Net Is Easy to Haul from Water



Fish can't get away when it is locked between two parts of metal landing net that resembles two hinged window screens

Landing fish in a boat is simplified with a metal net in two parts that closes around the catch for hoisting it over the side and removing the hook. Two pieces of wire netting, each a yard square, are stretched over frames of one-half-inch metal pipe.

The net hangs at the side of the boat just clear of the water until a fish is hooked. Then it is opened and lowered into the water with the line passing through it. As the fish is brought into the net it is closed and the prize cannot escape.

Drops in Altitude Pilots' Eyes Found Aid to Vision

Stratosphere flyers may have strychnine drops put in their eyes to correct impaired vision at high altitudes, as a result of research reported by Dr. Clifford P. Seitz, of the University of Alabama, and Dr. Charles M. Rosenthal, of the Long Island College of Medicine. At high altitudes lack of oxygen causes a widened "blind area" in the field of vision, making it difficult for the pilot to watch the numerous instruments and other objects he must keep in

sight constantly. The doctors made tests with a subject seated within a low-pressure chamber capable of duplicating conditions found at a 17,500-foot altitude. As the characteristic broadening of the blind area was noted, they put three drops of strychnine in one eye of their subject and plain water in the other, with the result that the blind area became smaller in the eye treated with the strychnine drops.

#### Plane or Car Brake Tested by Hand-Operated Gauge

Quick tests of the brakes on airplane wheels, dual-wheeled trucks and automobiles can be made with a simple, hand-operated gauge just invented. It consists of two steel grips which fit around top and bottom of the tire, one attached to a steel lever and the other to a pressure gauge which is attached to the lever. With the vehicle on jacks and the brakes set, pressure is applied by hand to the lever. At the point where the wheel starts turning, the gauge is read; similar readings of the other wheels are then taken, and the brakes are adjusted until all are equalized. All four wheels of a car can be tested in three minutes.



Pressure is applied to hand lever with brakes set, and gauge is read as wheel begins to slip

La POPULAR MECHANICS

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## Huge Diesel-Electric Tugs Attend Fleet at Sea



Below is the 205-foot sea-going tug "Navajo," one of three U. S. Navy tugs recently commissioned. With 3,800 horsepower available from four main Diesel engines, this powerful tender can handle a battleship; each twelve-cylinder engine is connected directly to a 600-kilowatt generator. At left is the navigating bridge. Sister ships are the "Seminole" and "Cherokee"

Three powerful Diesel-electric tugs, largest of their kind, have been commissioned as floating service stations for the U.S. Navy. The "Navajo," "Seminole" and "Cherokee" are 205 feet long overall, each of them powered by four main Diesel engines totaling 3,800 horsepower, and so capable of handling the greatest dreadnaughts in harbor maneuvers or at sea. To each of the four Dieselengines a 600-kilowatt generator is directly connected. The Diesels are twelve-cylinder, two-cycle V types. The boat can be operated

from full speed ahead to full speed astern by one hand wheel on the motor panel, or by the pedestal control in the pilot house. Its extreme flexibility of drive permits operation at better than half speed by only one main engine at little above idling speed.

## Stock Car Made into Speedster with Body of Sheet Metal

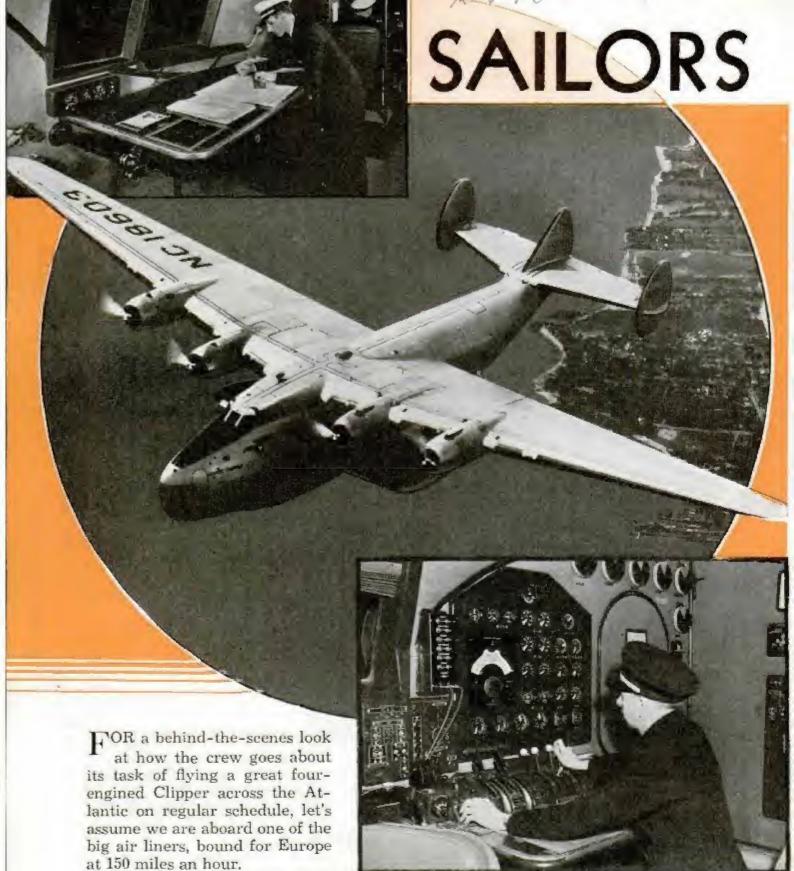


This is how his 1931 stock model car looks after the owner gave it a new streamline body of sheet metal

Using the chassis of a 1931 model automobile, one owner fashioned a new body along the lines of a speedster, without making any mechanical changes in the car. Strap iron of various sizes was welded to form the skeleton for the body, over which twenty-gauge sheet metal was riveted for covering. The car is forty-eight inches high at the windshield, measures nineteen feet from bumper to bumper, and carries four passengers.

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Circle, giant Clipper roars away on a cross-Atlantic trip. Upper left, navigating officer plotting Clipper's position. Lower right, engineer at his station from which he controls complete mechanical operation, regulation of fuel, setting and adjustment of throttles, propellers, etc. One instrument shows temperature readings at forty-one different engine and aircraft points

Climbing from our quarters on the passenger deck, we find the entire upper deck of the 82,500pound ship devoted exclusively to the crew's working quarters. Its space equal to that of the

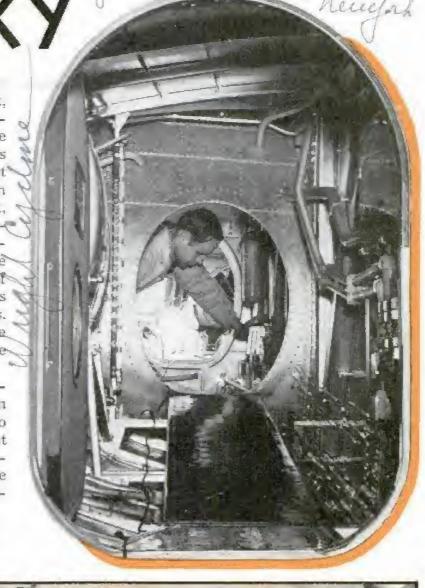
whole passenger compartment on a standard American land transport plane, this deck houses the pilot's compartment for the two pilots constantly on duty; the navigator's post; a complete radio station; a post for the engineering officer, and the captain's office. That "captain's office" item makes this airplane closely akin to an ocean liner—and that, in its organization, is what it is, an ocean liner of the air.

of the SKY

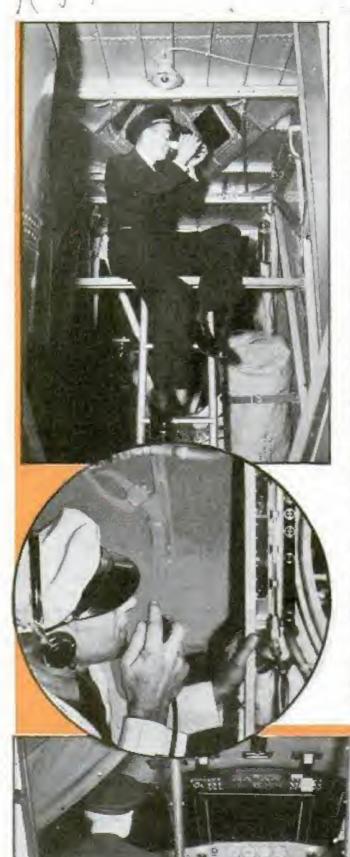
Forward on this upper deck, just aft and above the bow compartment which contains the craft's extensive marine gear, is the pilot's post, where at least' two pilots-often three-are on duty at all times. The third pilot, of course, is the important laborsaving device known as the automatic gyroscopic pilot. The human pilots may be any two of the five qualified ocean pilots carried on transatlantic flights. These include the captain, the first officer and usually three junior flight officers.

Essentially the captain is master of the aircraft. His position and his duties are comparable to those of the captain of the largest ocean liners. It is his responsibility to be available any time during flight at a moment's no-

Right, Clipper engines are serviced through catwalk in wing. Below, general view of Right dech with officers at their stations







tice, if he is needed. He is qualified to take over any post on the Clipper and he holds the highest ranking available to a commercial pilot anywhere in the world—that of Master of Ocean Flying Boats. Actually, in flight, the captain is in the left-hand pilot's seat during takeoff and landing, though he may delegate the actual flying job at this time to his first officer, who sits on the right-hand side. Thereafter, during flight, the captain takes his regular trick at the wheel.

The captain spends much of the remaining time while the ship is in flight reviewing navigation, consulting with his officers on the progress and condition of the flight and correlating the work of the various officers on duty so that the maximum efficiency of the aircraft may be utilized, the flight conducted in accordance with the most rigid regard to safety, and so that he may keep himself fully informed at all times about every phase of the operation.

About forty per cent of the captain's time is spent on the main deck with the passengers, for in addition to being the technical master of the aircraft, he also is its chief diplomatic officer and social leader.

Whether or not the captain is in attendance, the flight deck, of course, is a scene of continuous activity. Perhaps the busiest man there is the flight officer assigned to navigation. This may be any one of the four pilot officers under the captain. All these officers rotate at the tasks of naviga-

Top, glass-enclosed turret in top of wing permits full visibility to get bearings on celestial bodies. Circle, reporting engine condition to engineer by telephone from catwalk in wing. Below, left, pilot officers at controls. Right, using radio direction finder



tion and piloting. The navigator's primary job, of course, is to guide the aircraft on its course and keep constant and minute track of its position. At his command are several methods of accomplishing this, all of which he uses separately or in combination. These methods include determination of position by dead reckoning—that is, by presuming position on the basis of elapsed time at a known constant air speed and course, and estimated, but carefully checked, wind speed and direction; by celestial observation, taking cross bearings on sun, stars and moon; or by radio bearings taken on radio stations, the positions



Circle, radio operator at his post, which is a complete broadcasting and receiving station. Center, passengers going aboard. This gives you an idea of the Clipper's size. Bottom, all the comforts of home and perhaps a few more—are affered passengers

of which are known, such as ground radio stations or ships at sea. There are many combinations of these three basic methods which aid in the solution of the problem. A single bearing by radio may be combined with a single celestial observation. A dead reckoning estimation of latitude may be crossed with a celestial observation of longitude and so on. All these observations, along with many hundreds of the notations and calculations which assist in determining the final answer, are entered on the navigator's ocean chart, forming a

(Continued to page 141A)

## Wind Machine Tests Cars for Stability on the Highway



Cars are driven past this big fan on the proving-ground track while drivers and observers watch the effect of the fifty-mile side wind

What happens when a fifty-mile-an-hour blast of wind hits a speeding automobile from the side? To test the stability of new cars under varying wind conditions, a powerful motor was set up on the Ford test track at Dearborn, Mich. A four-blade, fourteen-foot propeller spins at vari-

ous angles, fanning the test track with breezes up to fifty miles an hour, while engineers drive cars past the big fan.

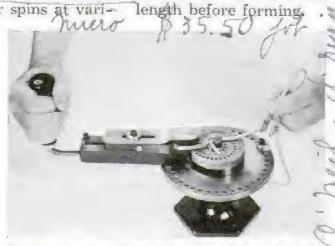
#### Silver May Take the Place of Tin If Wartime Shortage Occurs

If war should cut off overseas sources of tin, silver might be used as a substitute. Silver-lined food cans, for example, could replace tin cans. A sheet-steel base plated with copper and then with silver only one-millionth of an inch thick has produced a superior food container. Silver

would also fit into national defense plans as a metal for high-grade motor bearings, or, alloyed with aluminum and magnesium, for aircraft construction. The photographic industry may use less silver in the future, due partly to the growing popularity of color films and partly to the recovery of hitherto wasted silver in the development of films and prints. One promising field for largescale use of silver, however, is in disinfecting city water. One part of silver in ten to twenty million parts of water will render even heavily infected water safe for hu- 🧎 man consumption. The, cost would be small.

#### Hand Tool to Bend Metal Saves Cost of Die Making

Where a small number of parts are to be shaped the cost of making forming dies can be eliminated entirely by using a hand bending tool just introduced. It will duplicate shapes accurately, bending round, square or flat rods, tubes, wire and strip stock. Parts to be formed can be cut to the exact



Turning a wire with the hand bending tool, which does many forming jobs simply without requiring dies

870

POPULAR MECHANICS

## Small House Built of Metal Lath and Concrete

Concrete and steel construction of small homes at low cost has been achieved by the use of light steel channels to support metal lath on which cement mortar and plaster are laid to form the walls. A typical metal-lath house at Sheboygan, Wis., measuring twenty-three feet by thirty, included only \$13.75 worth of lumber. It is fireproof, and highly resistant to windstorm, lightning, earthquake and vermin attacks. Outer walls, two inches thick, were made by troweling cement mortar on both sides of a screen of metal lath sup-

ported by rod-like steel channels. A similar screen supports the room plastering, and mineral-wool blankets fill the space between outer and room walls. Expanded steel joists two feet apart support the floor slab, formed by spreading nearly three inches of stiff concrete over ribbed metal lath. The surface was troweled smooth to take linoleum, and the roof slab was formed like the floor.

Partitions two inches thick were formed like the outer wall slab, with mortar on both sides of metal lath. A skeleton of steel angles so light that hoisting apparatus

Above, applying plaster to metal lath forming partition. Left, metal lath of outer wall, supported by light steel channels, ready to receive cement mortar

was not necessary supports the house, the frame being bolted together and anchored to the foundation, which is no thicker than that required for a frame house.

## Light-Beam 'Sight' for Revolver Spots Target in the Dark

while tracking down armed criminals in

To help policemen protect themselves

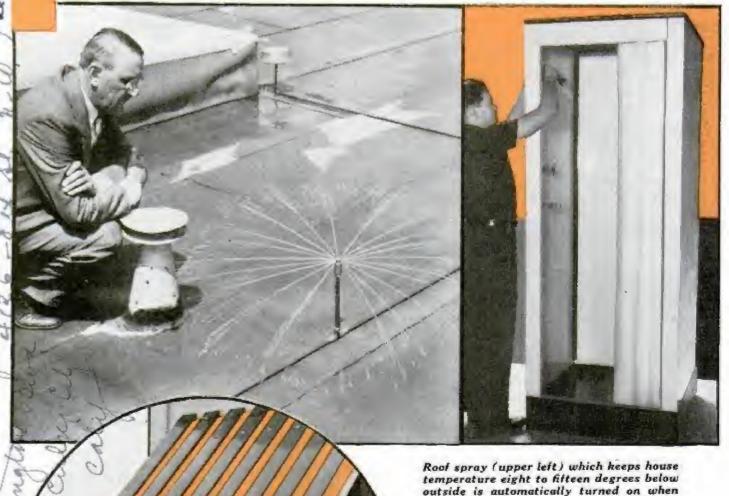
the dark, a spotlight for attachment to the service revolver has been introduced. It

eliminates the awkward method of carrying a gun in one hand and flashlight in the other, in areas too dark for use of the gun sights: Weighing but seven ounces, the new light-beam device fits on the gun barrel, with which it is aligned so when the light is thrown on an object the bullet automatically would strike within the arealighted. Thus when the policeman spots his quarry with the light, his gun is trained on the target.

Fitting light-beam "sight" over barrel of policeman's revolver. Gun is aimed in same direction as beam so bullet will strike within spotlight circle



# TRY THESE in YOUR



outside is automatically turned on when sun expands gas in control tube. Above, installing shower stall. Below, air circulates between strips of metal awning

turned again. NEW materials and new conveniences are making modern homes vastly different from old-fashioned houses. But you don't need to build a new house to benefit by the improvements because many of

The newest bathroom cabinets have swinging side mirrors flanking the main

Osulding maleria

them are available as built-in units, ready

for installation in a wall.

front mirror. Some of them are illuminated by fluorescent tubes on each side, on others the lighting is from behind the side mirrors, the light shining through clear windows in the mirror surfaces. Some of the cabinets have hinged shelves that swing out from behind the main mirror panel. Bathroom doors are being equipped with buttons on the interior knob that lock the door until the interior knob has been

Bathroom scales, hinged to the wall, fold back into the wall when not in use. Metal shower cabinets that are leakproof and inexpensive are available as units for installation in a corner. There are also clothes hampers and shoe-shine cabinets in metal units built into a wall.

For the kitchen, metal shelf cabinets are replacing wooden shelves and closets. These

POPULAR MECHANICS



Bathroom cabinet (top) has side mirrors lighted from back. Center, drapes hang from knobs on wall instead of rods. Right, tank for softening small amounts of water

cooler closet are supported on one metal rod that has an oil trap at the top and bottom to prevent ants and other insects from reaching food stored on the shelves. Portable water softeners are available for attaching to the water supply when needed. Some cooking ranges have glass windows in the oven for inspection of roasts and cakes without opening the door. A gadget not yet on the market is an electric clock for gas stoves that obtains its electricity from

the stove's pilot flame. A thermopile kept hot by the pilot flame generates a constant flow of electric current that in turn operates the electric clock.

Package compartments and milk receptacles that pierce an exterior wall come as units ready for installation and are theftproof. The exterior door locks automatically as soon as a package or bottle is placed inside and the door is closed, staying locked until the interior door is opened and the contents removed. Builtin steel or wooden ironing boards that swing out from wall cabinets have been improved by adjustments that permit them to be raised or lowered, Ironing can be done now while sitting down. The boards may be swung to one side and the cabinets have dryer racks that swing out from the wall.

The latest type of door chime is motor-driven instead of being operated magnetically. It plays eight notes when the front doorbell switch is pressed, a low note for the rear



1240 6

door, and a high note for the side door. Some of the smaller chime sets may be recessed into the wall.

Metal fireplace forms around which the bricks are laid also contain sheet-metal ducts that circuate heat from the double-walled firebox to other parts of the room or to adjoining rooms. A "loglighter" gas jet installed in a fireplace may be turned on and off at will and may be used instead of kindling to start larger pieces burning. Fireplace spark screens of flexible metal mesh that hang like curtains from a rod above the fireplace opening take up no room and may be drawn together to close the fire, or pushed out of the way at each side. The newest type of gas heater contains a closely wound coil of metal ribbon heated by the flame and which, according to claims, gives off no injurious fumes.

Insulation against heat and cold used to be expensive, but new materials and new ways to use old materials are bringing costs down. One building paper is heavily coated on each side with aluminum paint as shields to keep sum-

(Continued to page 144A)

Gas heater (top) uses coiled metal ribbon as radiator. Center, light and economical arched roof design. Below, model of swimming pool which can be built with filter system for not much more than \$1,000. Right, electric cabinet sterilizes brishes.



DECEMBER, 1940

Engineering

## Desks Have Sliding Baskets and Revolving Trays





Upper desk has disappearing tray for clips, ashes, etc.; lower desk features a sliding wastebasket

Built-in wastebaskets and revolving trays offer extra conveniences in office desks just brought out. The wastebasket, matching the desk, slides on runners and disappears beneath the center of the desk, where paper can be pitched out of sight. It is emptied by pulling forward and lifting. The rotating tray of another desk is hidden in a panel of what appears to be a top drawer. By revolving it, various receptacles for pins, clips, cigar ashes, etc., are brought forward.

#### Warplanes Made Difficult to See in Day and Night Sky

Assertions from Europe that battle planes have been painted with a secret varnish making them invisible may be merely an excuse for poor marksmanship of the defenders. Complete invisibility is impossible although an airplane may be rendered less conspicuous (by applying cer-

tain well-known principles. Mere transparency, however, is not enough, as can be seen by examining a piece of glass. Though light passes through it freely, glass is quite visible because it changes the speed and direction of light rays; yet a sheet of glass ordinarily is much less conspicuous than a similar sheet of opaque material. Some experts say that if an airplane were made of a glasslike substance, such as transparent plastic, it would be very difficult to see in the daytime except at low altitudes, even though the engine and many other parts would require metal. Giving all surfaces a mirrorlike finish, so they would reflect lots of light and appear bright as the sky, would have a somewhat similar effect. A different factor is involved in seeing planes against the dark background of the night sky, when ground observers depend on light reflected back from searchlight beams. If the lower surfaces of the fuselage and wings are painted with a flat black paint, most of the light will be absorbed, and scarcely any reflected back to the ground.

## Pocket Gauge Checks Alignment of Automobile Wheels

Wheel alignments can be checked quickly and easily with a portable gauge small enough to fit in the garage man's pocket. It can be used to determine camber, caster, toe-in and rear-axle conditions without the use of racks or turntables, to test the car for twisted frame or body, or it can be converted into a level protractor.



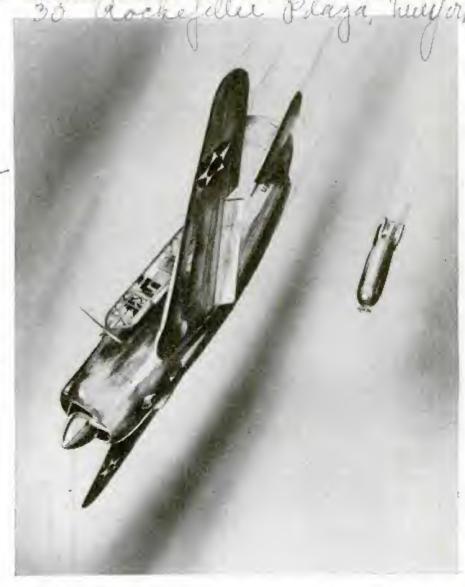
Testing a car wheel with the alignment gauge, which is small enough to fit in the mechanic's pocket

760 vience, De

Dive Bomber Adds Fire Power to Carrier

Offensive power greater than that possible heretofore will be provided for United States aircraft carriers with the completion of an all-metal dive bomber, known as XSB2C-1, built by Curtiss-Wright corporation. Of low-wing construction and powered by a 1,700horsepower, double-row Wright Cyclone engine of fourteen cylinders, the warplane carries large bomb loads at high speed over long distances from its base, and is equipped with formidable machine guns that give it unusually heavy fire power for aircraft of its type.

> Designed for use on airplane carriers, this dive bomber mounts machine guns of unusually heavy fire power for such a plane, and carries large load of bombs. It is capuble of making extra long flights from ship



Snap-On Metal Golf-Club Head Permits Left-Hand Swing

Golfers who normally use right hand clubs sometimes must take a left-hand swing at the ball should it come to

near a tree or other hazard. To save carrying a left-hand club for such situations, an aluminum shell that reverses the strik-

ing face of a right-hand club is now available. It snaps over the back of the club head, fitting most of the popular models of No. 3 iron and many No. 2 irons. Weighing about four ounces, it can be carried conveniently in the ball pocket of the golf bag. Its broad, flat sole helps guard against digging in, and distances up to 125 yards have been made with it. No holes or attachments are needed for fastening the shell to







Two views at left show how left-hand head slips on right-hand club for emergency shots. Right, player taking left-hand swing near tree

DECEMBER, 1940

CL

the club head.

SEALING HISTORY away



LISTORY is as safe as man can make it in the air-conditioned, lightproof Archives Building at Washington, where Uncle Sam files away precious documents for safekeeping forever. When papers first arrive there they are fumigated in steel tanks; air is evacuated, then ethylene oxide and carbon-dioxide gas enter to kill all insects, mold and fungi. Next, dust is blown from the documents with a compressed-air gun and caught in dust collectors. The papers are flattened by hand, subjected to moist air and then ironed on an ordinary mangle or ironing machine to remove all wrinkles and folds. The documents are then ready to be "laminated,"sandwiched in between sheets of transparent cellulose acetate and sealed away from air for all time. The "sandwich" is placed between two highly polished metal plates and submitted to pressure in a hydraulic press, the heat and pressure "melting" the thin acetate sheets into the pores of the paper and making them adhere to each other. After this pressure treatment the paper is thinner and takes up less room than it did originally, a big advantage when storing away billions of papers in the national archives. The historical paper and the cellulose acetate wrapper come from the polished metal plates as a single sheet. The danger of decay or insect attack is minimized, and aging tests indicate this laminating process makes the historical record as permanent as it is possible to make



Top, left, hand-treating charred documents; right, dusting with compressed air. Below, press seals paper in transparent film

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#### Birds Kept from Roosting on Edges of Roof



Sharp spikes made of stainless steel are installed in ten-loot strips along roof edges

Birds can be kept from gathering on roof edges and cornices of buildings by installing strips of sharp spikes. These rustproof prongs of stainless steel, set in aluminum, are offered in strips ten feet long and can be set wherever birds habitually roost. The spikes are spaced an inch apart and point in three directions.

#### Rubber Molding for the Bathtub Bends to Fit Curves

Made of sponge rubber, with a facing of hard rubber that hot water and soap de not affect, molding now available for use on bathtubs can be stretched, compressed and bent easily to conform to the contour



Rubber molding to provide seal between bathtub and wall does not loosen or break with seasonal changes

of the tub. The hard-rubber surface provides a watertight seal, and the resiliency of the sponge-rubber backing yields readily to seasonal changes without breaking.

330 W. 42 ma, 11-40

## Heavy Sulphur May Help Solve Secrets of Life

Heavy sulphur, which weighs one-seventeenth more than the ordinary one-centan-ounce variety but costs \$1,500 an ounce, may help to solve the questions of sulphur's role in the chemistry of life. Sulphur 34, the heavy element, has been produced at Columbia University by a chemical method adaptable to quantity production, and at Cornell experiments are being made in the metabolism of sulphur. By using the heavy atoms, the sulphur can be "tagged" at the beginning of an experiment, traced through the chemical reactions in metabolism, then identified in the end products by mass spectrographic analysis.

#### No Spark Safety Phone for Mine Has Parts Sealed Inside



There is no chance for sparks from this telephone to ignite gases in a mine since all parts are inclosed

Electric sparks from the telephone, which sometimes cause fires or explosions in mines, are eliminated by a new-type instrument. All parts of the phone are securely encased to prevent the escape of sparks from the bell or other connections that might ignite gases in the air.

(Paint that kills typhoid-fever germs nine weeks after a wall is painted and stops the growth of mold and yeasts in damp atmospheres has been developed by adding chlorine or iodine to the oils used in the paint.

lud. POPULAR MECHANICS

## Jetty Has Open Walls to Make Beach 'Grow'



Left, crane placing section of concrete jetty undergoing construction; note openings in sides to slow down water and allow sediment to sink. Diagram, center, indicates action of current along shore in vicinity of jetty built with openings becoming progressively larger toward the top. Bottom, looking down on jetty to see how concrete sections are joined together

Highly Permeable Section

New Shore Line

Former Shore Line

Low Degree of Permeability

U incent Cow Water dashing along the shore is made to deposit sand and other sedkment to form public beaches by slowing its pace with jetties built of precast concrete sections that leave openings for the waves to pass through. According to Sydney M. Wood, consulting engineer, who developed the idea, "open faced" or permeable jetties not only protect the shore, like the ordinary solid kind, but also prevent the scouring. action of waves and currents which sometimes carry away the sand instead of allowing it to gather. Therefore the bottom is free from dangerous holes often found where jetties permit a turbulent backwash. Openings in the new-type jetties may be regulated to fit the current and other local conditions so the velocity of the water may be lowered enough to permit the sand it carries to sink to the bottom.

#### Army Wants New Machine Gun Air Cooled, Lightweight

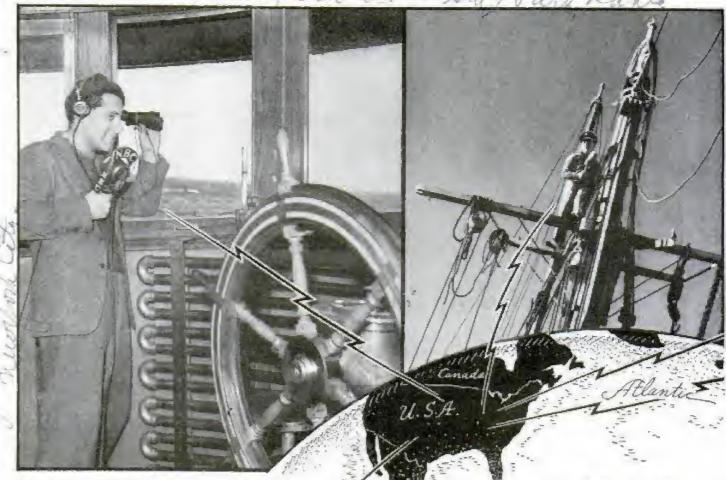
Inventors have been invited by the United States army's ordnance department to develop a light machine gun before October, 1941, when tests will begin. In general, the gun must not weigh more than twentytwo pounds nor be more than thirty-eight inches over-all; mounted on its tripod it should not exceed eighteen inches in height. Air cooling is one requirement, and the barrel must be capable of being unscrewed from the front so a new barrel can be put on in a few seconds. It is to be bored and chambered for the standard .30-caliber army cartridge, and heavy enough to fire 300 to 350 shots a minute for five minutes without stopping. AmmuniBase of Bluff

Increasing Permeability and

with Baffle Effect -

tion is to be fed in from the left side, in metal-link belts, the cloth-web belts and box-magazine and clip feeds being considered unsatisfactory. Although there are other specifications, a gun that meets these requirements, and can stand rough usage under field conditions is said to have a good chance of competing with the best weapons offered for adoption by the army as the standard type.

DECEMBER, 1940



AMERICA goes CALLING



By Guy C. Hickok

Program Director, International Division National Broadcasting Company

A HUSH falls over the great chamber as the President starts speaking before congress. His message is an important one, senators and representatives are out en masse and there's not a vacancy in the press section or spectator's gallery.

Before him is a battery of microphones carrying the speech into millions of homes. The world is listening, too, for in a corner of NBC's New York offices a handful of men hover over a teletypewriter with one eye on the clock and the other on the keys. Paragraph by paragraph the text is ripped from the clucking machine and carbons handed to linguists for translation into Italian, German, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

Three men rush the speech into Italian. Every second counts. It's just after 2 o'clock and the daily Italian hour (received

Important news stories are covered by special-events men (top) whose bulletins travel around the world. Bottom, building 25,000-watt short-wave transmitter

national Broaded electe



by SHORT WAVE

in Italy between 7:00 and 8:00 p.m.) of NBC's shortwave service is on the air. They work at lightning speed and before the President has finished speaking in Washington an announcer is reading it into a microphone. The speech travels by land line to Bound Brook, N. J., where towering antennas scrape the clouds. Several buttons are pressed and the text is beamed toward Italy where it will be picked up as clearly as though the voice came from a local station. An hour later, a German-speaking newscaster sends the address winging toward Berlin and Cologne where, behind closed doors, wary listeners crouch forward toward their loud speakers. Tuning in a foreign news dispatch is

Top, left, base of Bound Brook, N. J., radio tower; right, planning a foreign broadcast. Bottom, fan mail from eighty nations





Above, a special-events man covers news at sea. Left, counterweights protect the 600-foot antenna spans against ice. Bottom, changing a transmitting tube at Bound Brook station calls for asbestos gloves

"verboten"—but no matter, they must know the truth about matters vital to them.

Next France hears the speech, then England and Latin America. And before the minute men of radio call it a day, a polyglot international audience has heard the President's speech. The Montevideo dock worker in a waterfront cafe speculates on its import as does the oil engineer in Saudi Arabia; an American army officer in Alaska has heard it almost simultaneously with the crowd gathered around a loud speaker in a park in Angola, South Africa.

Two repeat broadcasts in the President's voice, by electrical transcription, are made for English speaking listeners who might have missed the first direct broadcast. One late at night is beamed southward for the 30,000 Americans in the Canal Zone, the British subjects in the West Indies, and for Americans scattered in oil fields, nitrate and tin mines in South America. This program also is heard in Little America, passes on under the Pole and comes up in Australia, picks up listeners along the China coast and finally in Alaska. The second broadcast by transcription is directed toward Europe to reach listeners who might have missed it the first day.

That's the way America goes calling on



some eighty or more foreign countries these days. And usually, the welcome mat's out. A large international audience has been built up not so much by the redletter events such as a presidential speech, as by the daily series of multiform yet well-balanced programs emanating from two powerful short-wave stations sixteen hours a day, seven days a week. Last year out of 16,500 international programs some 12,150 were designed to acquaint certain groups of listeners on the five continents with customs, life, and ideals of America.

Although news is but one dish on the international short-wave menu it is by far the most popular, for were it not for these newscasts many foreigners would have no way of learning what's going on within their own country and beyond its borders. Short wave ignores the censorships.

Long before the first gun was fired in the European explosion, war lords set the propaganda mills grinding to put across their ideologies. With all the intensity of a blitzkrieg, the war of words has been sprayed over twenty republics of Latin America for some time, particularly in the more important cities where both the dictators and their opponents claim large numbers of transplanted patriots and heavy commercial interests.

Consequently the newscasts emanating from North America are virtually the only unbiased, impartial ones coming their way. They know, too, America has no particular ax to grind other than the promotion of good will, hence there's no need for a censor to be standing by with blue pencil and scissors to "doctor" the copy before it's put on the air.

The time factor has helped their popularity, too. Filtering news through government-controlled channels takes time, so much that NBC broadcasts news over the air as much as twenty-four hours ahead of radio stations operating in totalitarian countries. Even on history-making news breaks such as the agreement of Russia to Hitler's non-aggression pact, continental Europeans tuned to the American station got the alliance fully five hours before it was released by European broadcasters. When Der Fuehrer met Mussolini at Brenner Pass there was a thirteen-hour difference between the American broadcast in Italian and the official bulletins from the Italian stations.

(Continued to page 118A)

## Ukulele Built at Home from Kit of Parts



Here the homemade ukulele begins to take shape. Full instructions are furnished with the kit of parts

All the essentials for building a ukulele at home are included in a kit of parts now available. Only the simplest of home tools are required for assembling the parts, which form an instrument of standard size. Instructions for the assembling are included in the kit.

Broken Lamps Removed Safely with Shockproof Tool

Broken light bulbs can be unscrewed from their sockets easily with a lamp-base remover that reduces the danger of shocks, short circuits and cut fingers. At one end is a hollow rubber grip that is inserted into the broken base, with the hand at a safe distance, to remove it quickly even when

the current is on. Two sizes are made, one for medium and one for mogul screw bases.



## Flying 'Sausage' on a String Is Still Eye of Army

the land the telegraph access





Ground crew, left, making one of the "sausages" ready for upward ride back of the lines to "stand watch" and report enemy movements. Right, basket swinging from balloon carries crew of two men

One phase of warfare hasn't changed much in twenty-five years. As in the first world war, the captive "sausage" balloon still goes aloft back of the lines to watch the movements of the enemy from a distance. Anchored to the ground, raised and lowered by cranking up a long rope on a windlass, the balloons carry two observers.

## Home and Office on Wheels Includes Laboratory Space

Serving the threefold purpose of a comfortable home, business office and research laboratory while touring the country, a streamline "dewdrop" automobile, designed

for use of the president of a large manufacturing concern, includes a combination living room, dining room and office, sleeping quarters at the rear, and laboratory

space containing extra large sink. Among the conveniences are a desk with built-in radio, couch that can be turned into an extra bunk, table folding away into a eupboard, heating and air conditioning operated by push button, electric outlets for razor, lamps and toaster, four-burner "bottled gas" range, refrigerator, bathroom with shower and toilet, and hot and cold running water. Screened windows are fitted with venetian



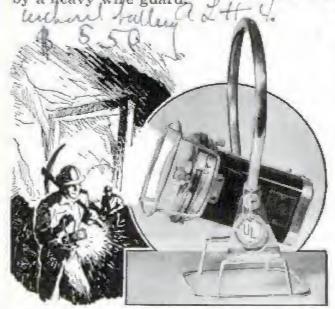
Combining business with home comforts, this truck-size auto houses living room and office, sleeping room and laboratory

POPULAR MECHANICS

blinds, and rooms have indirect lighting. The "house" car is twenty-five feet long and eighty-eight inches wide, weighing about 8,000 pounds. It uses front-wheel drive, eliminating the drive shaft and permitting rooms to be built six feet and two inches high. The power plant, an ordinary ninetyfive horsepower engine, runs an air compressor that furnishes pressure for the water system or to pump up tires. It has a top speed of eighty-five miles an hour.

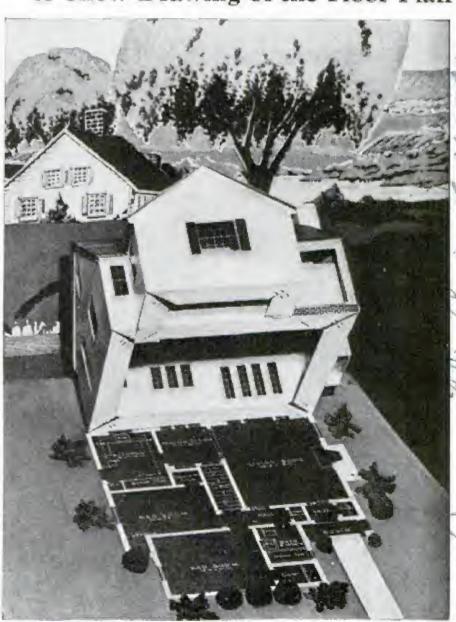
#### Electric Lantern for Miners, Oil Workers

Being particularly useful in mines, chemical plants, oil fields and other places where danger of explosion is high, a new safety lamp has been introduced for workers. It has a swivel base which permits setting the lantern down and directing its light at any angle. A slide switch instantly ejects broken bulbs. The glass dome is protected by a heavy wire guard.



New-type electric lamp designed particularly for use where danger of explosion exists

# Tiny Model of New Home Is Tilted to Show Drawing of the Floor Plan



Tilt the miniature home backward and here is what you see: a complete blueprint drawing showing how rooms, halls and stairways are laid out

Tiny models of houses built to scale are used by some lumber dealers to help sell homes. A single display may consist of half a dozen or more miniatures, each presenting a different exterior and interior design. Placed in neat order on a darkgreen panel of fiber board that looks like a lawn, the houses have individual color schemes, and the setting is completed with realistic plants, shrubs, sidewalks and garages. The layout of the home interior is shown by a floor plan, drawn in blueprint form, under each house. To view this the customer swings the tiny house upward on a hinge which joins the back of the house to the panel. The dealer is prepared to supply construction blueprints, specifications and material costs for the houses.

DECEMBER, 1940 Ballery G

## Luxury Bus Has 'Snack Bar' and Washroom



Callenger 3



On this page are some views aboard the "Sun Chief," a Cincinnati-to-Florida bus of Southeastern Greyhound lines which offers faster service and extra comforts at slightly extra fare. There's a "snack bar" aboard, shown in the top picture, at which the steward prepares tray luncheons for the passengers. Below, he is serving sandwiches and a soft drink. There's also a lavatory, with running water from a forty-gallon tank. Average time between stops on this route is six hours. A "ship's bell" clangs at departure time, with bal-

lyhoo, as if starting a cruise

## Diesel Highway Liner Built of Stainless Steel



## Camera Fan Turns Eight Snapshots into One

Several different snapshots are being cut out along irregular lines (at left). Afterwards they are pasted together as a composite and the resulting picture is rephotographed as seen below

Eight snapshots of bears, tourists and scenery were turned into one picture by a vacationing photographer to represent a tourist's impression of Yellowstone Park. To conceal the trickery he ran the shears along broken contours of objects such as tire tracks on the road or the outline of a bear, then rearranged the cutout pictures. After pasting the pictures together he rephotographed the whole.

## Sub-Zero "Barrel" for the Home Keeps Foods Frozen

Foods can be kept frozen and fresh indefinitely in a "food barrel" for the home, which maintains zero or sub-zero temperatures at an electricity expense approxi-



Sectional view of home food barrel at left shows thickness of insulation

mately that of your household refrigerator. The housewife thus can take advantage of lower prices for quantity buying, ordering a quarter of beef at a time or laying in a supply of frosted foods. The farmer can butcher at any season and store meat for future use. The sportsman can keep fish and game fresh. The food is kept in an upright cyl-. inder about the size of a barrel; the compressor is housed under a small hood at the side. Set at the factory to operate at zero, the unit can be ad-

justed for any temperature down to twenty degrees below zero. There is negligible loss of cold when the lid is removed, since the cold air stays down in the barrel. The entire wall surface of the food compartment comprises the freezing unit, and this is surrounded by four-inch walls of insulation. Defrosting is unnecessary. Buckets of ice can be frozen quickly. The frozen-food barrel eliminates the usual vacuum and operates on back pressure, reducing the power consumption considerably.

#### Ship's Deck Atop Hospital Aids Recovery of Sick

On the roof of a hospital in New York, the promenade deck of an ocean liner has been reproduced where patients recuperate in the open sunshine, far removed from the atmosphere of the sickroom. They loll in steamer chairs, play deck games and have tea and cake served by the deck "steward," simulating an ocean voyage. The time of day is given on the ship's bell, and there are real lifeboats. cabins, portholes, ship ventilators, nautical instruments and a gangplank. The patients forget they are in a hospital.



Patients "go to sea" on hospital roof where sight of ship's promenade deck makes them forget hospitals and sickrooms

## 'Shock Stick' Controls Gorilla with 5,000 Volts of Persuasion



A touch with this 5,000-volt electric shock stick makes "Toto" behave. Its amperage is too low to do injury

"Toto" is usually very docile, having lived her eight years in comfortable human surroundings. Still, a 400-pound gorilla is a hazardous companion and you can't take chances. So Toto's keeper now

carries a "shock stick" that can add 5,000 volts of persuasion if the animal should become unruly. A box at the center of the electric-"billy" contains an induction coil. The shock is enough to compel respect, but low amperage prevents any injury. Toto was captured as a baby in Africa.

Food Odors are removed from the refrigerator by a small package of high-grade activated carbon, chemically treated to absorb all types of odors such as those from onions, cheese, garlic and fish. Compact and simple to use, it will function for months when placed far back in the box on a corner of a shelf, according to the manufacturer.

# Plastics and Glass Feature Novel Furniture Read Furnities Novel ideas and new materials add to the attractiveness of modern furniture. Above, a glass table top rests on decorative sea horses Furnishings of glass and plastics are particularly popular. At upper left is an eyecatching transparent screen of Tenite, the new plastic that is five times as strong as aluminum. Below, at left, a handy bed or chair table that has legs on one side only, but is as steady and sturdy as if it were a conventional quadruped. At right, a chiffonus with "portholes" that reveal

your shirt supply at a glance

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WHEN white light is spread out, by means of a glass prism, you see the spectrum—a band of color ranging from violet through blue, blue-green, green, yellow, orange, red and deep red—representing light of different wave lengths. When daylight is split by raindrops, you see the same thing, in the form of a rainbow.

What the human eye fails to see are the invisible radiations at either end of the spectrum, as well as the rainbow. These radiations, science and industry have found, are extremely useful. One band, known as ultraviolet, extends beyond the violet in the spectrum. The other band, known as infra-red, extends beyond the red. Ultraviolet is of short wave lengths, infra-red of wave lengths longer than the red. As the wave lengths increase in the infra-red group, the radiation merges into heat waves and finally into the radio waves.

Important applications of infra-red radiation are just coming into use in the industrial field. Drying lamps, designed to



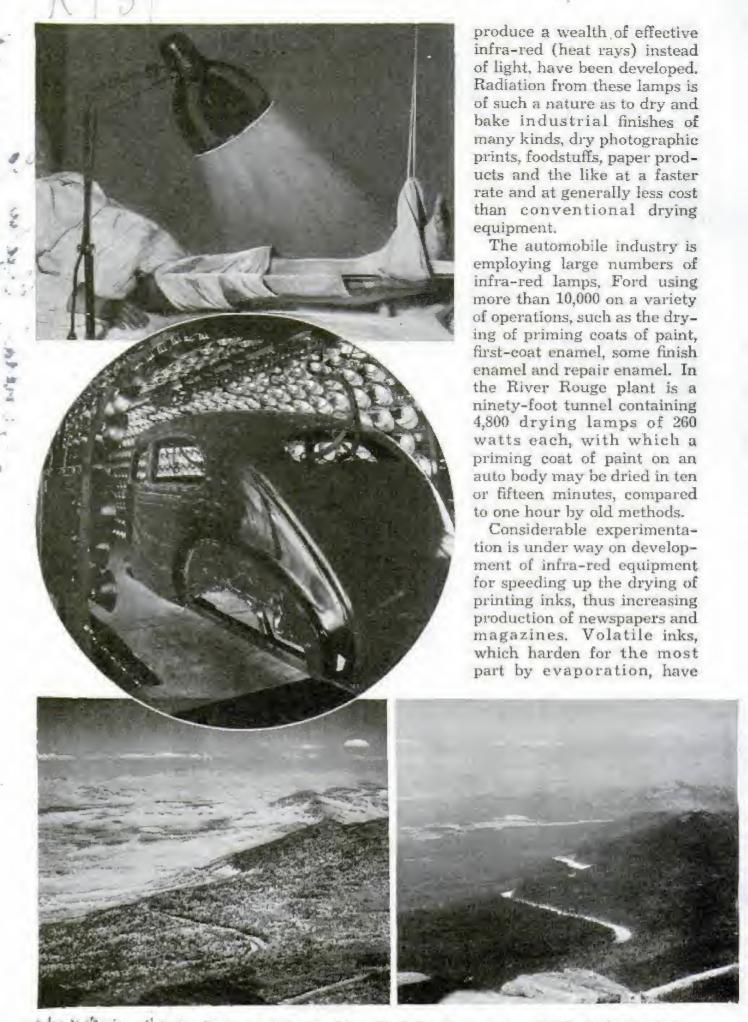
Courtesy General Electric Ca

Top, battery of infra-red lamps used for drying.

Bottom, popping popcorn with "invisible" light

DECEMBER, 1940

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Top, heat lamp speeding treatment of tractured leg. Circle, heat-lamp oven used in Ford plant for baking car enamel. The process is completed in about one-quarter the time required by conventional methods. Bottom, left, photo made with infra-red sensitive plate. Right, same scene made with ordinary film



Photos courtesy Eastman Kodak Co.

Left, portrait made on infra-red sensitive plate. Compare it with portrait made on ordinary film (right). Note how infra-red whitens. Circle, battery of heat lamps employed in drying operations. Bottom, portable drying unit baking enamel on auto

been produced in an attempt to overcome one of the biggest obstacles to fast printing. That is "offset," which is the transference of ink from the top printed side of a sheet to the under side of the next sheet as the sheets come off the press. Of course the result of "offset" is smudg-

ing. In color printing, some means of drying ink so quickly that smudging will be prevented is of great importance.

Another industrial application is the heating of asphalt-impregnated fiber board so that it may be bent into any shape desired. This material can be bent by heating it to between 150 to 180 degrees Fahrenheit, a job performed satisfactorily by infra-red.

Radiation of this type also is employed successfully in the medical field. Among the therapeutical uses are the treatment of skin grafts following wounds, treatment of infec-

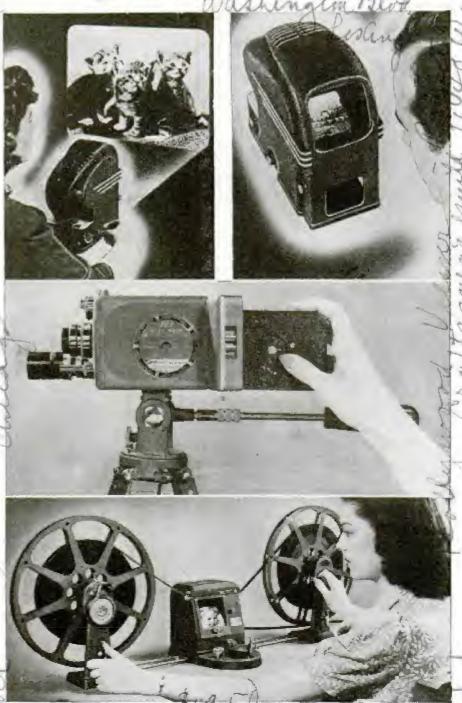
(Continued to page 120A)



Photo courtesy North American Electric Lamp Co.

DECEMBER, 1940

# Film Viewers for Stills and Movies Help Amateurs Plan Home Show



Top, combined projector-viewer for still pictures; center, three-lens mag azine-loading movie camera; below, viewer showing movies as movies

Home picture shows, both of movies and stills, are constantly being improved by the appearance of new equipment for the amateur. One important new aid for the moviemaker is a film viewer which permits editing the film as a motion picture instead of a series of stills. With the conventional viewer, the individual frame is seen clearly on the ground glass screen but when the film is drawn through rapidly it appears as a blur. The new type has an optical compensator composed of a block of glass, through which the image passes, revolving as the film is drawn through the viewer and so keeping the image centered on the viewer screen to produce the effect of motion. This facilitates rapid editing. There is also a new viewer-projector for still pic-

along there

tures. Look into its "eyeangle" window and you see the slide, bright and clear even in daylight, projected on its internal miniature screen. Flip a knob and the viewer's mirror swings out of the way, converting it into a 100-watt projector. The first multi-lens magazine loading movie camera has just been introduced for sixteen-millimeter fans. This gives the home moviemaker wide latitude in filming; the magazine slips in and out easily, allowing quick change. from color film to blackand-white or to film of different emulsion speed: the rotating turret permits immediate change to wide-angle, speed or tel-s ephoto. Viewfinders corresponding with the lens being used automatically move into place to show the exact field of the lens.

#### Three-Light Bulb Fits Any Lamp

With a bulb containing three separate filaments you can have a choice of either a forty, sixty or 100-watt light by simply twisting the selector switch—a Bakelite phenolic collar—to low, medium or bright. The three-light bulb fits any regular socket and may be used in any floor or table lamp.



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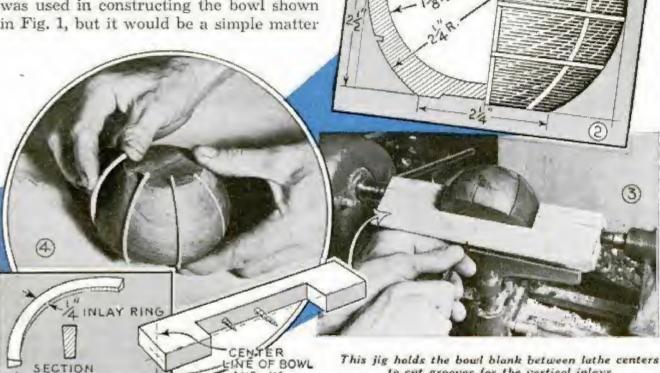


# INLAYING



# TURNINGS

11/OOD bowls and similar turnings can be given an unusual appearance by inlaying them with strips of contrasting woods. While this is extra work, the beauty of the finished article makes the added work worth-while, A single walnut block was used in constructing the bowl shown in Fig. 1, but it would be a simple matter



AND JIG

to cut grooves for the vertical inlays



to use built-up wood, covering the joints with the horizontal inlays. The inlay work and the maple rim are completed before the block is hollowed out to form the bowl.

To begin, first turn the block to the outside shape of the bowl. Dimensions are given in Fig. 2. Then

cut the grooves to take the vertical inlay pieces. These are ½ in, deep, and you will have to use a jig similar to the one shown in Fig. 3 for mounting the work between centers. Be sure that the work and jig are set so that the center line of the bowl coincides with the center line of the lathe centers. The grooves are cut with a specially prepared tool made from a small, flat file, the tang of which is ground to make the grooves ½ in. wide.

The inlay strips are made by turning maple rings 1/16 in. wide on the inner edge and slightly thicker at the outer edge, Fig. This slight variation is necessary so that the inlays may be forced into the grooves to fit snugly. Two maple rings 41/2 in. in diameter are needed for the vertical inlays, each ring being cut into four pieces. The strips are forced in place easily by first clamping the work between the jaws of a woodworkers' vise to hold it in position, and then tapping the strips into the grooves with a soft-wood block. Use scrap pieces of wood between the work and the vise jaws to prevent marring it, and coat the inlay strips lightly with glue before inserting them. After the glue has dried, put the block back on the faceplate and sand down the projecting edges of the strips.

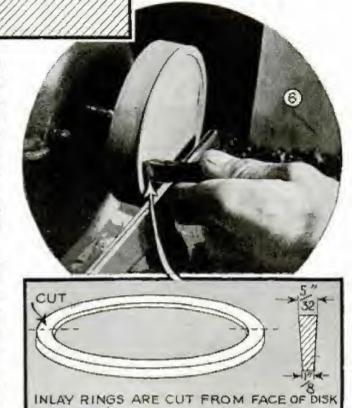
Next comes the horizontal inlay grooves.

After these have been cut, make a groove in what will be the upper edge of the finished bowl to take the maple rim as in Fig. 5. This groove is ½ in. deep and ¾6 in. wide. Again remove the bowl from the lathe and put it in the vise ready for inserting the horizontal inlay strips. These are made in the same way as the vertical ones, except that the maple rings are cut in half. After fitting the inlay strips in the grooves, turn the maple rim, leaving ½ in. projecting on the underside to be glued into the groove at the top of the bowl. Glue the rim in place, and when dry put the

work back on the faceplate. Now turn out the inside of the block to form the bowl and smooth it inside and out with fine

sandpaper.

A French polish finishes the bowl nicely. To do this, apply a coat of shel-



lac and when it begins to dry, start the lathe and hold against the bowl a cloth on which some shellac and equal parts of linseed oil and alcohol have been dropped. Run the lathe at high speed, and keep the cloth moving back and forth across the work to produce a highly glazed finish. Gluing thin felt or blotting paper to the bottom of the bowl to prevent marring furniture completes the work.

Bookcase in Closet Door Utilizes Waste Space

Space behind the door of a closet can be put to excellent use by converting the door into a bookcase or knickknack shelf. Doors having a single panel are the most suitable as the panel can be used for backing of the shelves. A depth of 6 to 9 in. is best, and the shelves can be constructed in the usual manner. Quarter-round molding is used around the edge of the opening and half-round molding is used across the front edge of each shelf. The shelf assembly is fastened to the door on the rear side with 2-in. corner irons, and molding nailed in place. In some cases it may be necessary to reinforce the upper hinge.

#### Simple Trick in Cutting Glass Assures Uniform Break

An expert glazier, employed by one of the large glass manufacturers to call on dealers and demonstrate his methods, employs this simple trick to cut large glass to size. If the extra piece to be removed is 2 in. or more in width, he makes the score across the sheet in the usual manner, then pulls it to the edge of the counter, which must be perfectly smooth and free from bits of glass or other material, and, lifting it to the angle indicated, brings it down so that the cut line slightly overlaps the edge. The overhanging piece snaps off instantly. By practicing a few times with waste glass, any workman may acquire this trick.

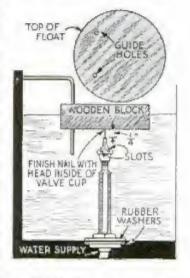




#### Float Valve from Scrap Parts

A float valve that will maintain a constant level of liquid in a tank or other vessel can be made from an old automobiletire valve and a wooden disk. First mount the valve inside of the tank with rubber washers on each side to make a liquid-

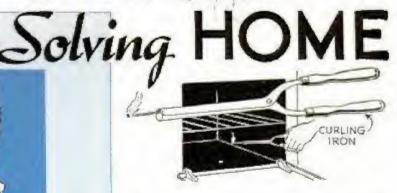
proof seal. Then remove the valve cap, dig out the rubber in the top and make two or three slots through the knurled portion. Drill a hole through the end of the block to take a small finishing nail. Insert this in a cap with the head on the underside and drive it part way into a



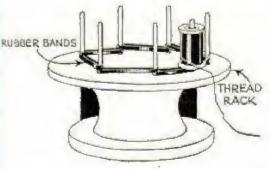
small wooden block, which is to serve as your float. Reassemble the valve and cap and provide a guide on the side of the tank to keep the wooden float in place. In use, the weight of the float will compress the valve spring until a predetermined level has been reached.

—R. R. Henderson, Madison, Me.

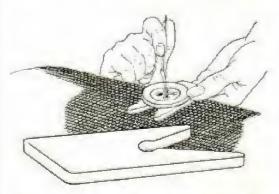




Spring-type clothespins clipped horizontally to a flat stick stuck vertically into the center of the flowerpot as above, provide a substitute for a miniature trellis that can be assembled quickly. If you have a gas stove in which the oven burner is so placed that it is difficult to reach with a lighted match, and you are apt to burn your hand or arm in the operation, simply use a curling iron as an extension arm to hold the lighted match, as above



Difficulty of pulling a heavy coat sleeve over a child's arm may be simplified by slipping the foot of a silk stocking over the hand and dress sleeve. This will eliminate the usual trouble of pulling down the dress sleeve after the coat is in place. Rubber bands slipped over the spindles of a spool rack will help to keep the spools from spinning rapidly and tangling the thread when it is being removed



To prevent chairs from damaging the finish of your dining table when they are pushed against it, drive rubber-headed tacks into the chair backs at the level of the table top, as shown at the left. To space buttons from heavy cloth so that they will button easily, use a piece of notched cardboard as above, when the sewing is being done. After the button has been sewed, several windings are madaground the thread beneath it

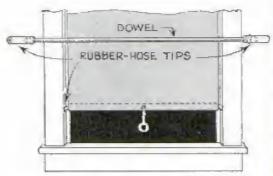
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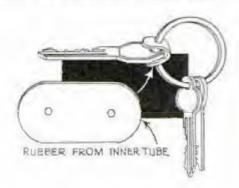
TAPED

TAPED

When driving a number of tacks that must be spaced uniformly, you can save time and do a good job if the tacks are first stuck through a strip of cardboard as at the right. To prevent an electric plug from pulling out of a wall outlet, you can use either a slotted spring-brass clip or a strip of rubber taped to the cord and fastened to the outlet cover as above



Annoyed by having books fall to one side when adjoining books were removed from the shelves, one man tacked strips of molding along the front edges of the shelves to tilt the books so that they would contact the back of the case. To keep a window shade from flapping in the wind, substitute a dowel tipped with pieces of rubber hose for the flat stick in the bottom hem. The hose pieces should wedge the shade firmly at any point



To stretch and hold strips of metal linoleum binding while tacking it, slit a length of rubber hose along each side and slip this over the metal. Pressure of the knee on the rubber will cause it to grip and hold the strip at any tension. If you wish to isolate a much-used key from others on a ring, cut a small piece of rubber and slip it over the key and ring as above



#### Wheelbarrow Converted to 'Sled' for Winter Use



The difficulty of pushing a wheelbarrow over frozen ground or ground covered with snow can be avoided by fitting it with a runner of the type shown. This is nothing more than a barrel stave fitted with a box made of blocks to take the wheel. The runner is attached instantly by merely lifting the wheel into the box.

#### Rubber Jacket Protects Oilstone Against Dust Particles

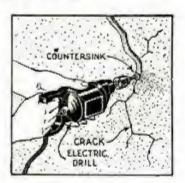
If an oilstone is not kept in a wooden case, dust may collect on it and greatly impair its efficiency. Both sides will be protected from dust by cutting a band from an old inner tube and slipping it over the



stone. The band will also lessen the chance of breakage if the stone is dropped accidentally.—Kenneth Murray, Colon, Mich.

#### Countersink Reams Plaster Cracks to Patch Them

In patching cracked plaster it is best to make the cracks V-shaped to get a good bond between the plaster and the patching material. One of the easiest ways of doing the job is



to put a countersink in an electric drill and go over the cracks with it. The patching is done in the usual way.

-Eugene Morrison, Columbus, Ohio.

#### Sealing Glue Containers Easily

When a can of glue is used frequently about the home shop, do not bother to pry

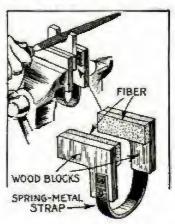


off the can lid or to replace it with a hammer or mallet. Sooner or later the lid will become bent and will admit air, drying up the contents of the can. A better method is to smear a little of the glue around the top of the opening and

press a piece of waxed paper over it. This can be ripped off and replaced with a fresh piece in no time, and the liquid glue will remain fresh.

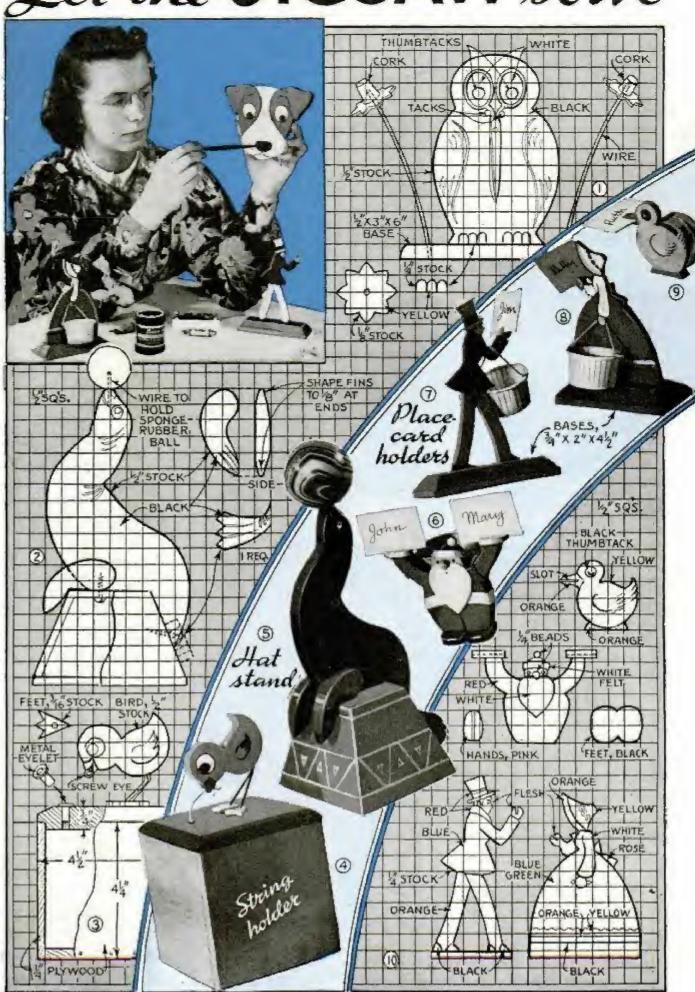
#### Vise Clamps in One Unit

These fiber vise clamps are permanently attached together so they are always at hand, ready for instant use. The fiber is fixed to two wooden blocks, and these are screwed to a piece of spring steel.

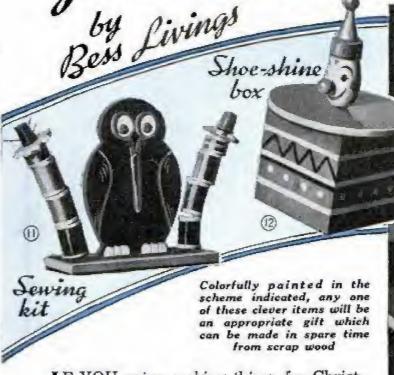




# Let the JIGSAW solve



your GIFT PROBLEM
Bess Livings
Ress



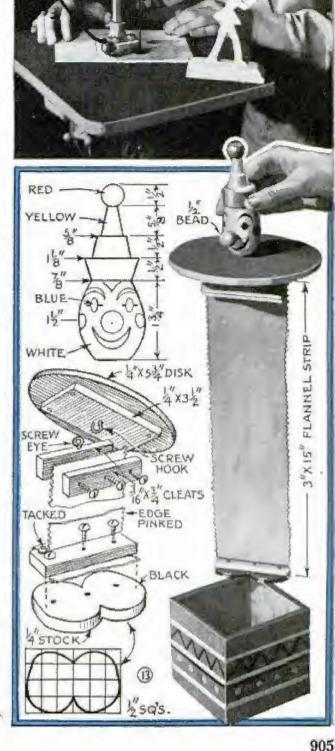
I F YOU enjoy making things for Christmas gifts, here are a number of clever items which can be completed almost en-

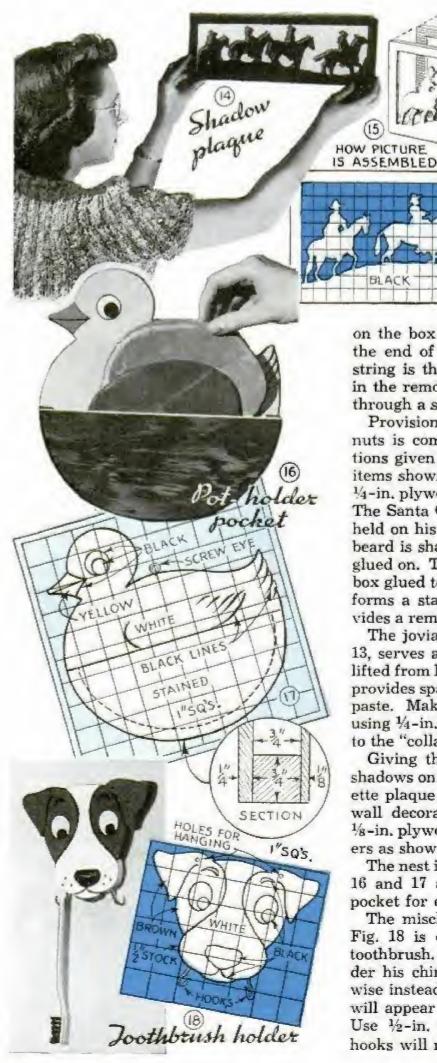
tirely on your jigsaw.

The comical expression of the scissorbilled sewing bird shown in Figs. 1 and 11, is achieved by a pair of red-handled scissors held in place by two tacks painted black. The body is cut from 1/2-in. plywood, while the feet are carved from 1/4-in. material. Nails and glue are used to fasten the bird to the base. The strange-looking plants on each side consist of a curvedwire stem extending through the base and into the center of a flower made from a cork glued to the center of a petal-shaped disk of wood. The flower is removable so that spools of thread slipped over the wire may be replaced easily. The cork center of one flower serves as a pincushion, while the other holds a thimble.

The balanced ball on the tip of the seal's nose shown in Figs. 2 and 5, provides a perfect perch for a hat. The ¼-in. plywood pieces comprising the stool are mitered, glued and nailed together, and the seal is attached to the top with screws. After carving and attaching the fins and tail, a length of wire is inserted in a hole bored in the nose and topped with a small ball of sponge rubber or wood.

Vainly tugging at what appears to be a worm, but actually is the end of a ball of string stored below, the little bird perched





on the box shown in Figs. 3 and 4, keeps the end of the latter easy to grasp. The string is threaded through a metal eyelet in the removable, rabbeted lid and passed through a screw eye in the bird's bill.

Provision for place cards, and mints or nuts is combined cleverly in the suggestions given in Figs. 6 to 10 inclusive. The items shown in Figs. 8 and 9 are cut from ¼-in. plywood and glued in grooved bases. The Santa Claus in Fig. 6 has a paper cup held on his back with a rubber band. His beard is shaped from a separate piece and glued on. The cover of a round thumbtack box glued to the back of the duck in Fig. 9, forms a standard for the figure and provides a removable cup for nuts or candy.

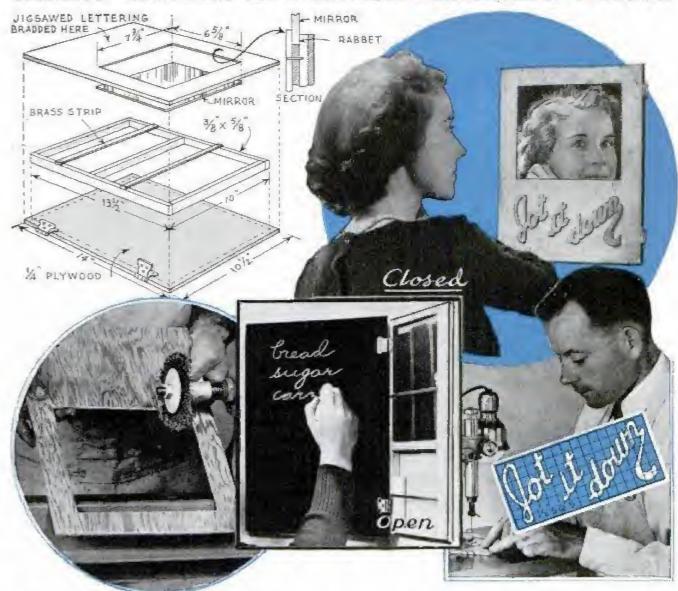
The jovial clown, shown in Figs. 12 and 13, serves as a polishing cloth when he is lifted from his gaily painted hideout, which provides space also for several cans of shoe paste. Make the box about 4 in. square, using ¼-in. plywood. The head is attached to the "collar" disk with a screw.

Giving the illusion of depth by casting shadows on a light background, the silhouette plaque in Fig. 14 makes an attractive wall decoration. The design is cut from 1/8-in. plywood and is built up of three layers as shown in Fig. 15.

The nest in which the bird shown in Figs. 16 and 17 appears to be sitting, forms a pocket for egg-shaped hot-dish holders.

The mischievous-looking pup shown in Fig. 18 is effective for holding a child's toothbrush. Two brass hooks are fitted under his chin. By laying the brush crosswise instead of from the end as shown, he will appear to be holding it in his mouth. Use ½-in, plywood for this so that the hooks will not split the wood.

## Memo Cabinet in Kitchen Includes a Mirror



This tiny kitchen cabinet with a mirror set in its front, encloses a small blackboard and has pockets for note and cook books as well as chalk and pencils. Front and back are made of 1/4-in, plywood. Two coats of blackboard slating paint are applied to the back to provide a writing surface for chalk. The front has a window which is rabbeted to take the mirror from the inside. For a novel effect, round the front corners and score the wood with a wire brush. Then finish in ivory or white and rub some burnt umber or other pigment into the scored scratches, wiping the whole surface clean. Jigsaw the letters and paint the sides, then brad them in place and paint the top surfaces. Nail and glue wooden strips to the back of the lid to form the pockets, sides and bottoms. Mortise narrow brass strips into the side pieces to hold articles in the pockets. The hinges must be mortised to their full depth when folded, with the pins standing well out so that the front can

swing out more than at right angles. Two holes at the top of the blackboard fit over screwhooks in the wall to hold the memo.

#### Pins Ornamented with Wax

By merely heating and covering the heads with sealing wax, common pins may

be made highly ornamental and suitable for special purposes. Treatment consists in forming a round or tear-shaped drop of sealing wax over the head, but of course the shape may be al-



tered in any way desired. A large variety of sealing waxes in various colors is available, and one stick will treat hundreds of pins. The pin heads do not break off easily.

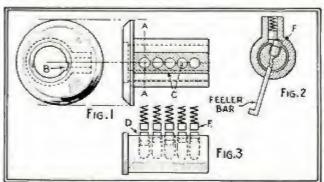
#### Carpenter Wears Small Headlight to Leave Both Hands Free



A small electric lamp of the type that is worn around the head will be found handy by carpenters who must sometimes work in dark places. The lamp throws light on the work as they look toward it and leaves both hands free to use the tools.

#### Making Tumbler Lock Pickproof

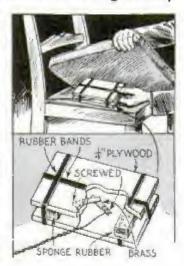
To make a tumbler lock pickproof is a simple matter if you proceed as shown in the details. First take out the cylinder, remove the pins and file a groove as shown at B and C, Fig. 1. Make the groove 1/8 in. wide and 3/12 in. deep. Next replace the pins and insert the key to see that all pins are in alignment. Then remove the key



and fill the holes above the pins with short pins long enough to project above the cylinder about 1/16 in. as shown at D. Then replace the cylinder and insert the final pins and springs as shown at E, Fig. 3. Fig. 2 shows a section through the cylinder at AA. When a feeler bar is inserted into the key slot preparatory to using a pick as at F, it will be impossible to push the pins upward. However, when the key is entered into the lock, it brings the proper break between the pins.

#### Simple Switch Assembled Quickly

Using odds and ends of materials found about the home, the electric switch shown can be assembled quickly for operating devices and causing electrical effects secretly and mysteriously. By varying the width of the sponge-rubber spacers, the switch



can be adjusted to operate effectively under either light or heavy pressure.

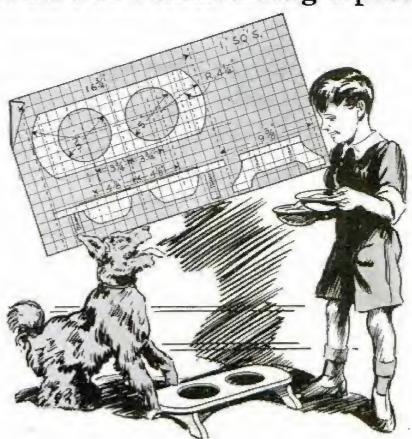
#### Irregular Curves Drawn Easily with Linoleum Binding Tape



Artists can do a neat job in drawing irregular curves by using a length of zinc linoleum binding tape with the ends bent over so they can be attached to the drawing board with push pins as shown. The strip can be formed into any curve desired and is sufficiently rigid to guide a pencil or pen. It is important to use tape having narrow corrugations running lengthwise.

# Dog's Table Keeps Its Food from Being Upset

If you have a dog or cat, this table will save work in caring for it. Besides being a neat way to keep its food and water always at hand, your pet will be unable to overturn the food dishes. The table can be cut out of almost any kind of wood. First get the bowls or pans to be used as food dishes. They can be of almost any size or kind, such as glass cereal bowls purchased at a dime store. Then cut the openings in the table top to fit them. When using glass bowls, it is well to get those having narrow flanges around the tops so that they will fit all the way down in the openings. Finish the table with a good grade of enamel.-Russell E. Mathias, Indianapolis, Ind.



### Substitute for Scratch Brush Is Made from Wire Screen



Having worn out the wire scratch brush for my hand grinder, and not being able to secure another without delay, I made a very satisfactory substitute by cutting disks from ordinary galvanized screen wire. These were fitted to a mandrel in the grinder chuck and smoothed up with a dressing stone. The result is a scratch brush that does first-class work at a cost of a fraction of a cent.

-Kenneth Murray, Colon, Mich.

#### Novel Garden Fence of Jigsawed Wood Blocks Looks Like Rock Wall

A novel and artistic fence that gives the appearance of stone at a distance, is made readily from wood blocks which are jigsawed to odd shapes and then suspended between the top and rails of a fence by means of rope, as indicated. The blocks are painted white and the rope is left in the natural color.

—R, L. Fairall, Los Angeles, Calif.

¶If you will leave a space of 2 or 3 in. between the back of the electric refrigerator and the wall, warm air from the coils can escape easier and this will help to keep down the operating cost.

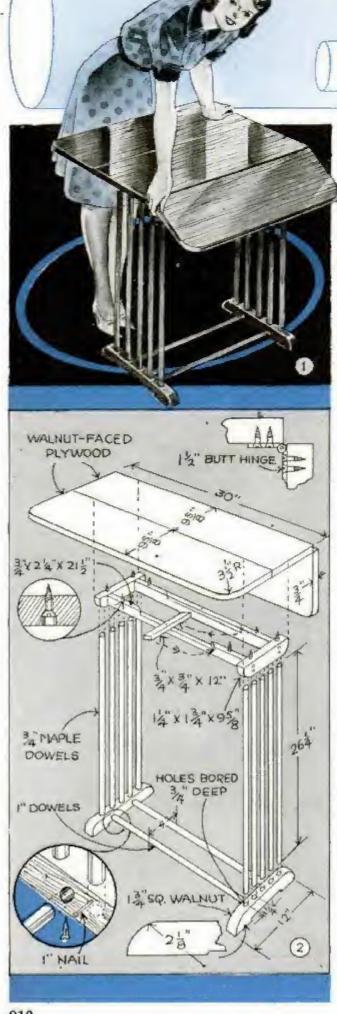


# DOWEL

form these

A STURDY and rigid as tables having conventional leg design, this simplified construction comprises rows of standard dowels as a substitute. Utilizing dowels in this way enables one to produce many attractive pieces of furniture that have simplicity of line as well as simplicity of construction, since the joints consist merely of holes into which the dowels are glued. For beautiful two-toned effects, maple and walnut stock may be combined to harmonize pleasingly with the natural finish of the dowels.

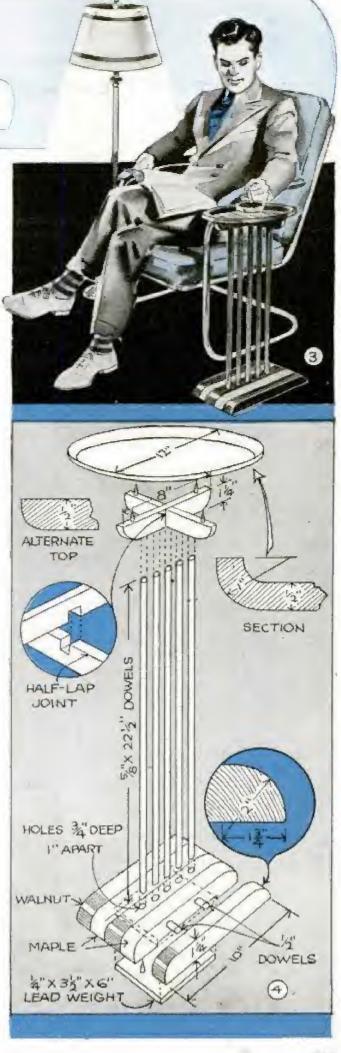
As examples of what can be done, two designs are presented-a drop-leaf table and a smoking stand-which incorporate the use of dowels for legs. A larger table, of the type shown in Figs. 1 and 2, can be built following the same general method of construction. Select the dowels for straightness, and also see that they are a full 34 in. in diameter. Many of them you will find undersize, and therefore, to assure snug-fitting joints, it is a good plan to make a trial fit of each, in a hole bored in a small block, when they are being purchased. The feet are cut from 134-in. square stock, undercutting the bottom edge 1/4 in, deep. By clamping both pieces together temporarily while they are being cut and sanded, two identical pieces will be had. Mark a centerline down the top edge of each piece and lay out the position of the holes, working each way from a midpoint. If a drill press is available, the holes can be bored to a uniform depth quickly. However, if these must be bored by hand, an improvised stop block fitted to the bit will prevent boring too deeply. At right angles to these holes additional holes are made in the inside face of each block to receive two dowel stretchers, spaced 4 in. apart. Finishing nails, 1 in. long, are used to fasten the dowels in the holes. These are driven from the inside face of the block, set below the surface, and puttied. The holes in the end aprons at the top must line up accurately with those in



# RODS table legs

the feet so that the dowels will be uniformly parallel. Two of these holes are counterbored for the screws that are used in attaching the top. For this reason, the dowels are glued in the holes after the top has been screwed in place. Fasten the cross rails containing the swinging supports for the drop leaves to the end pieces, with screws, spacing them about 8 in apart. The top can be of plywood or solid stock. Either a rule or a plain butt joint may be employed along the hinged edges.

The stand shown in Figs. 3 and 4 is equally as simple to make. Here a center column of five dowels is used to support the circular turned top. The base is quite effective when made up of pieces of light and dark woods. You will notice that the three center pieces are notched on the bottom so that when they are placed together, a recess will be had into which a lead weight may be set flush. This will provide added weight to the stand to prevent tipping. The three inner pieces are "threaded" on two dowels running crosswise through the base and entering blind holes in the outer pieces. While glue alone will hold the upright dowels securely to the base, they also may be nailed. In this case the nails are driven in through the side of the center piece before gluing and clamping into a unit. The upper ends of the dowels enter holes drilled in the half-lapped cross members which support the top. Unless you are able to swing 12-in. work over the lathe bed, the top will have to be turned on the outer end of headstock. A wood upright in the top of which the shank of the lathe tool rest may be fitted temporarily, will provide an improvised rest to support the turning chisel. To prevent the screws used in attaching the faceplate from entering the finished work too deeply, a scrap block of wood is glued to the bottom of the tray into which the screws may be driven. For simplicity, the top may be merely a flat disk with the lower edge rounded to relieve the plainness.



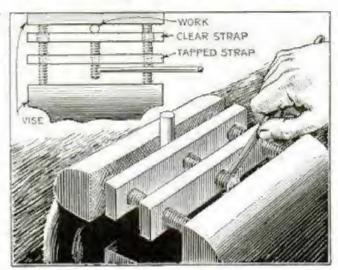
#### Clip Keeps Papers in Position on Open Newsstand



A self-adjusting clip to hold newspapers from blowing off a newsstand can be made from a narrow strip of rubber cut from an old auto tire. Opened outward and nailed to the wall back of the stand, the free end of the strip will rest on the stack of papers, allowing them to be removed one at a time but preventing them from being blown off.

#### Vise Attachment for Small Work

If you have a few small pieces of work to clamp in a vise while finishing them, and there is only a large vise available, this attachment will come in handy. It converts the large vise to the easy manipulation of a small one. The attachment consists of two lengths of flat iron, one drilled and tapped near the ends and in



the center to take studs as shown, and the other drilled to slide freely over the outer studs. The center stud is fitted with a short handle and bears against the free-sliding piece of flat iron to press it against the work when the handle is turned. The tapped flat-iron strip is quickly adjusted for the work so that a slight movement of the clamping handle loosens or tightens the free-sliding strip against the work.

-H. Moore, Leeds, Eng.

#### Wire Solder Protects Minnow Net from Rocks and Pebbles

To prevent wear on a minnow net from rocks or pebbles, one sportsman uses wire solder. This is threaded through the net and around the iron hoop.



#### Homemade Electric Glue Pot

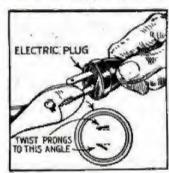


An inexpensive b a b y b o t t l e warmer makes an excellent heating unit for the homeworkshop glue pot. By using a ½-pt. bottle or jar with a wide mouth, a 2-in. brush can be

inserted into the hot glue. This warmer has many other uses around the home shop such as quickly heating small quantities of water and other liquids.

#### Prongs of Electric-Cord Plug Twisted to Get Good Grip

When an electric-cord plug does not fit snugly into the connecting socket, twist each one of the prongs slightly with a pair of pliers. This will cause the prongs to fit tightly in



their sockets so that they make a good electrical contact with them.

## Bracelets and Necklaces from Walnut Shells

UNUSUAL and attractive pieces of "costume jewelry" can be made from black-walnut shells, which are so hard and close-grained that they take a beautiful polish, and are strong enough to withstand reasonably hard usage. The necklace and bracelet shown are but a few of the possibilities of this material. Buttons, pins and

novelty hat decorations also may be worked out. After selecting several regular shaped nuts, scrub the shells clean with soap and water, and saw off slices or disks, using any fine-tooth saw. To facilitate holding the nuts, which are placed endwise between the jaws of a vise while sawing, the ends



are flattened slightly with a file. The nut is squeezed between the jaws with just enough pressure to hold it. After sawing halfway through the nut, a spacer of cardboard is forced into the saw kerf to prevent breaking or binding, and the nut is turned over to continue the cutting.

The sections are placed in a vise or hand screw and holes are drilled about ½ in. apart through the edges for the thread or elastic. The faces of each section are smoothed with sandpaper and polished to a fine sheen with wax. Six or seven sections of uniform size are required for the

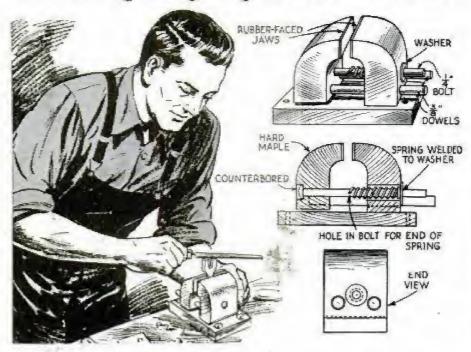
bracelet. Two 1/8-in. beads, one on each elastic, are required as spacers between each disk. The elastic is drawn fairly tight and knotted so that the knots will come within one of the large

openings of the shell to help conceal them.

The necklace is strung on strong linen thread and provided with a metal clasp. Here you can use pieces of the same diameter, or you can use a large one in the center and have progressively smaller ones toward the end. The quantity of beads between sections and above them is indicated by numbers on the photo of the necklace. Brown, black or crystal beads are appropriate for this jewelry.

Oilcloth will be easy to clean if it is kept thoroughly waxed.

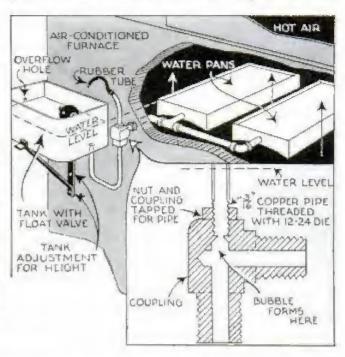
# Small Spring-Operated Vise for Modelmakers



Handy for many small jobs done by the modelmaker, this simple little spring vise is easy to make. Hard maple is used for the jaws and base, and %-in. dowels for the slides. A 1/4-in. bolt with a spring and washer over it provides the compression. A handle may be added if desired. Larger vises with stronger springs can be used for heavier work, the base being bolted to the bench top.-Paul H. Smith, Norfolk, Mass.

## Vapor Lock Makes Humidifier on Furnace Inoperative

Difficulty experienced with the humidifying apparatus in an air-conditioned furnace, in that the supply of water to the evaporating pans could not be maintained, was found to be caused by a bubble or vapor lock forming in a fitting in the line between the water tank and the evaporating pans. The upper detail of the drawing shows the general layout of the system in the furnace and the lower detail shows the fitting where the bubble formed. To avoid the bubble, the top part of the fitting was tapped to take a copper pipe, over which was fitted a length of rubber tubing to reach to the water tank. This prevented air or vapor from accumulating at the top of the fitting, and the rubber tube carried any water that might overflow back to the tank.—Geo. C. Crom, Jr., Buffalo, N. Y.



#### Powdered Colors Are Handy to Match Paints for Small Touch-Up Jobs



A variety of powdered colors that can be obtained inexpensively from art dealers is handy to have in your workshop for matching paints for small touch-up jobs. When a painted article has to be matched, select the paint that most nearly matches it and add to it a little powdered pigment of the desired color.

■To give added gloss to reed furniture, dip a stiff brush in furniture polish and brush the furniture well.



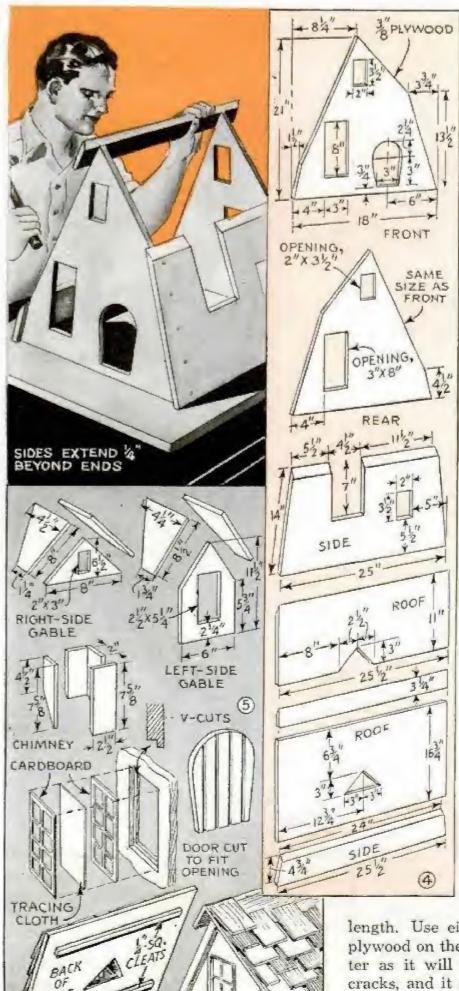
For the dollhouse, use ¼ or ¾-in. plywood. Shape the sides, ends and roof pieces to size as in Fig. 4, and cut the window openings. The inner edges are recessed to receive the windows flush. Each one is cut out of two stiff pieces of cardboard. Tracing cloth is sandwiched between to simulate glass, Fig. 5. Stain the cardboard walnut and set in the opening with glue. After the windows have been completed, paint the end and side pieces. Painting them now is much easier than after they have been fastened together. When dry, assemble them with brads, allowing the side sections to extend beyond the ends about ¼ in.

Now come the gables and chimney. It will be well to paint them too, before FRONT

Playhouse

3

REAR



METHOD OF

LAYING SHINGLES

ROOF,

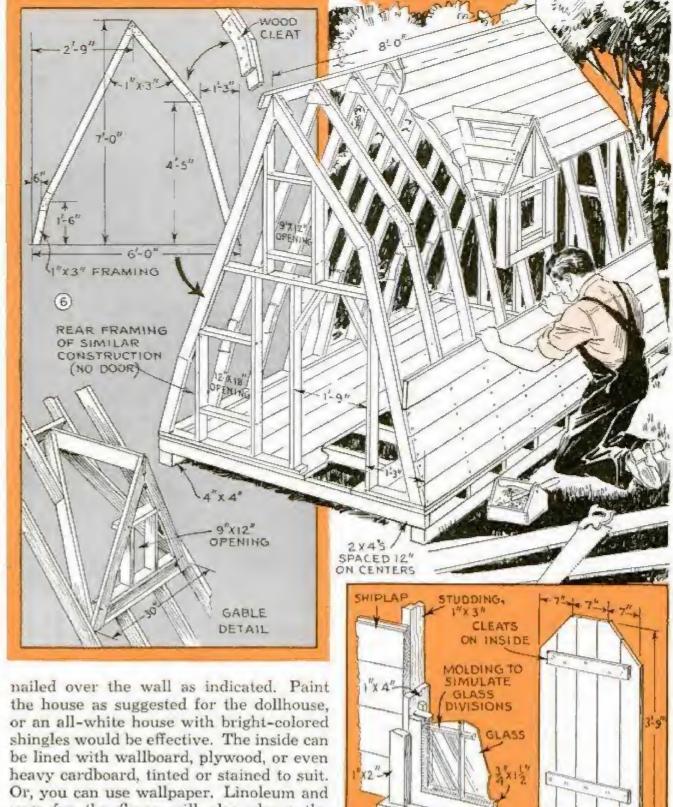
attaching to the main section. The removable part of the roof is held in place by two cleats. The halftimbered effect is obtained by gluing or tacking on pieces of cardboard that have been stained and dried. Shingles are rectangular pieces of cardboard of various sizes glued or fastened with brads. They should be painted various colors, such as orange, yellow, red, green or blue.

The house can be mounted on a piece of wood about ¾ in. thick of whatever size you want. When you are finished with the job, take a small water-color brush and go over the outside with dark stain to produce a weathered appearance. The dollhouse can be illuminated with a string of Christmas-tree lights.

For those who like to build a playhouse, Figs. 6 and 7 give detailed construction. The two sills which support the structure should rest either on stones or concrete blocks to prevent rot. For the floor joists use 2 by 4-in. stock and cover them with shiplap. The rafter sections are 1 by 3-in. stock, fastened together by overlapping boards.

Shakes are used for roofing, but if you are unable to obtain them, a good substitute can be made with ¼-in.-thick boards. As with the doll-house, these should be varied both in width and

length. Use either shiplap or waterproof plywood on the sides. Plywood is the better as it will present a surface without cracks, and it can be laid out so that the joints are covered with the half timbers, which are used to produce the "fairyland effect." These timbers are 1 by 3-in, boards



rugs for the floors will also please the young owner. Built-in furniture such as a table, benches and bookcases will make the house more "livable."

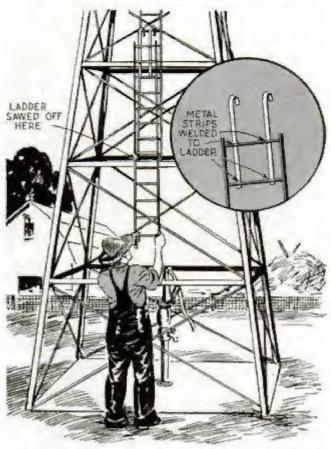
If desired, electric lights can be installed with wall switches and ceiling lamps complete. Also, if you want the house as realistic as possible, you can put in running water, using small pipe or tubing to carry it where desired. If the house is placed permanently in the yard, a garden hose can be used to convey the water to the playhouse piping system. And, of course,

you will want a sink and kitchen wall cabinets. In the original house, a false fireplace was installed. Built of wood, it was painted to simulate brick. The inside was lined with sheet asbestos and an electric heater installed. Also, there was a bell in the playhouse for calling the young mistress for meals.

DETAIL OF WINDOW

DOOR

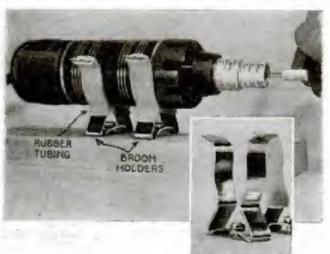
#### Windmill Ladder Is Removable So Children Cannot Climb It



To prevent small children from climbing the ladder of a windmill, one farmer cut it several feet above the ground so that it could be removed and suspended out of reach. Flat-iron strips with hooks bent on the ends were welded or bolted to the upper end of the removable section to permit suspending the ladder safely.

#### Bench Holder for Hand Grinder

Two spring-steel broom holders are mounted side by side to form this holder. As the springs are made to hold an object having a smaller diameter than that of the grinder, it is necessary to spread them a



bit before mounting. Short pieces of rubber tubing are fitted over the springs to prevent marring the grinder. The holder permits the grinder to be used for various kinds of bench work with metal, wood or plastics.—Allen Fiske, Chicago.

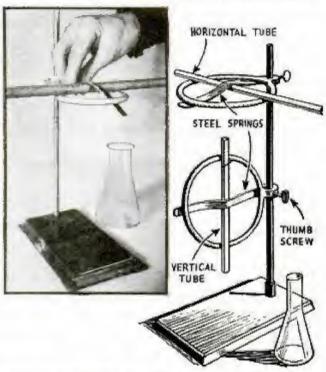
#### Bookmark from Bobby Pin

A simple yet permanent book-mark is made easily from a bobby pin and a piece of ribbon. Slip the end of the ribbon through the top of the pin and clip it on the book back.



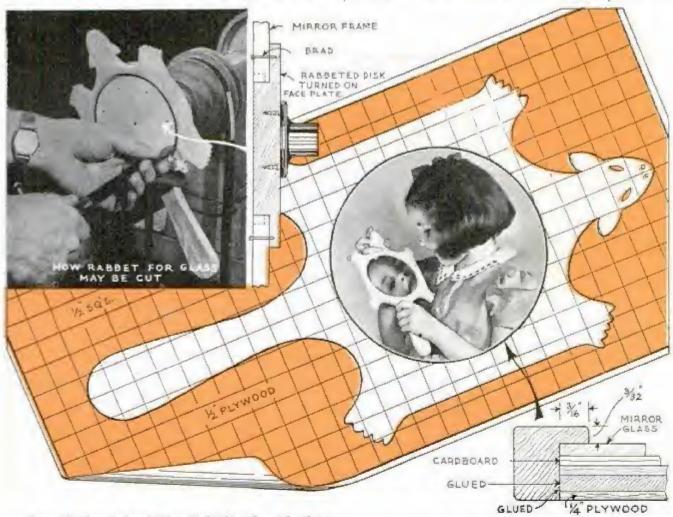
#### Apparatus Clamped to RingStand by Stiff Spring

If your chemical apparatus does not include a number of special clamps or supports for holding pipes, rods or tubes, you can secure parts of this nature to an ordi-



nary ring stand by using a flat-steel spring. Just place the rod or tube over the center of the ring and insert the steel strip from beneath the ring, running it over the tube and under the ring again on the other side. This will hold the tube firmly in a horizontal position. If it is necessary that the tube be held vertically, this may be done by clamping a second ring to the shank of the first one as shown.

# Child's Hand Mirror Shaped Like a Squirrel

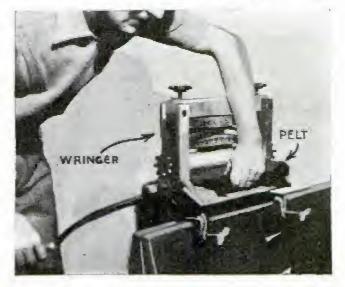


Any little girl will be delighted with this hand mirror, which resembles a flying squirrel with the legs and tail extended in a soaring leap. Five-ply, ½-in. plywood for the frame and ¼-in., 3-ply plywood for the mirror backing are the materials needed. First jigsaw the mirror opening and true it up so that it can be used as a guide in cutting the rabbet for the mirror on a

shaper or drill press. If these are unavailable, you can use a lathe as shown in the upper details. Paint the frame ivory including the back of the bevel, which reflects in the mirror. Insert the mirror, padding the back with cardboard and paper to bring the back flush with the frame. A few drops of glue will hold the back in place.

## Clothes Wringer Dries Pelts of Small Animals Quickly

Fur pelts ordinarily take a long time to dry, even when carefully cleaned by an experienced hand of all excess fat and moisture. Amateur trappers on farms and in small towns are prone to rush the drying process with artificial heat. This causes the pelt to crack and greatly reduces its value. Trappers in the Louisiana swamps, one of the greatest fur-producing territories in the United States, run the freshly stripped pelt, nose first, through an ordinary clothes wringer. If the pelt has a tail on, it is run through to the tail and then reversed and backed out. Of course, only cased pelts can be so treated.—K. Keith, Keokuk, Ia.



919

DECEMBER, 1940

# FIGURE SKATING S SHORT RADIUS LONG RADIUS SHORT RADIUS FOOT PLATED FRET LOOSE FOR GOOD CIRCULATION AND EASE OF SKATE I-NISIDE EDGE OF SKATE F-FORWARD B-BACKWARD R-RIGHT FOOT L-LEFT FOOT REGULATION AND EASE F-FORWARD R-RIGHT FOOT L-LEFT FOOT Pagute skates

#### By THOMAS P. LAKE

Basic cutves.

FIGURE skating is basically the use of four curves, which are made on the forward, inside and outside edges, and on the backward, inside and outside edges as in Fig. 5. Figure skates are designed to make curves and spins possible. From front to back, the edge of a skate is a smooth curve which changes from a very short radius at toe and heel to a very long radius in the center. The edge is fairly thick and is ground carefully to a mirror-finished hollow section as in Fig. 2. The shoes are usually leather-lined and, when used indoors, are often worn without socks. The bare skin adheres to the leather, and the skate is then firm on the foot without the necessity of lacing as tightly as when socks are worn. The shoe should be laced very tightly from the ball of the foot over the instep, and left loose enough above that point to allow good circulation and ease of bending. See Fig. 4.

Symbols used in describing figures are abbreviations of the words describing the basic curves, as given in Fig. 3. Correct position of legs, body, arms and head is essential. Generally, the body must be erect as in Fig. 6. The chest should be expanded, and the shoulders held squarely. The head should be erect, and never tilted more than a moment to look at the ice. The ice should be seen only in brief glimpses. Beginners often cramp their figures by too much looking down.

Arms control balance and supply the slight impetus necessary to begin many maneuvers. In skating, the hands should be kept below the shoulders, the palms inward or downward—never upward. Also, the skating leg always should be bent at the knee, and kept relaxed. The balance leg should be well separated from the skating leg, the knee bent, the leg rotated outward until the leg is about at right angles to the skating leg, and the toe pointed down, as in Fig. 7 and the insert of Fig. 9.

The four basic curves may be skated in the form of figure-eight circles in order to exercise

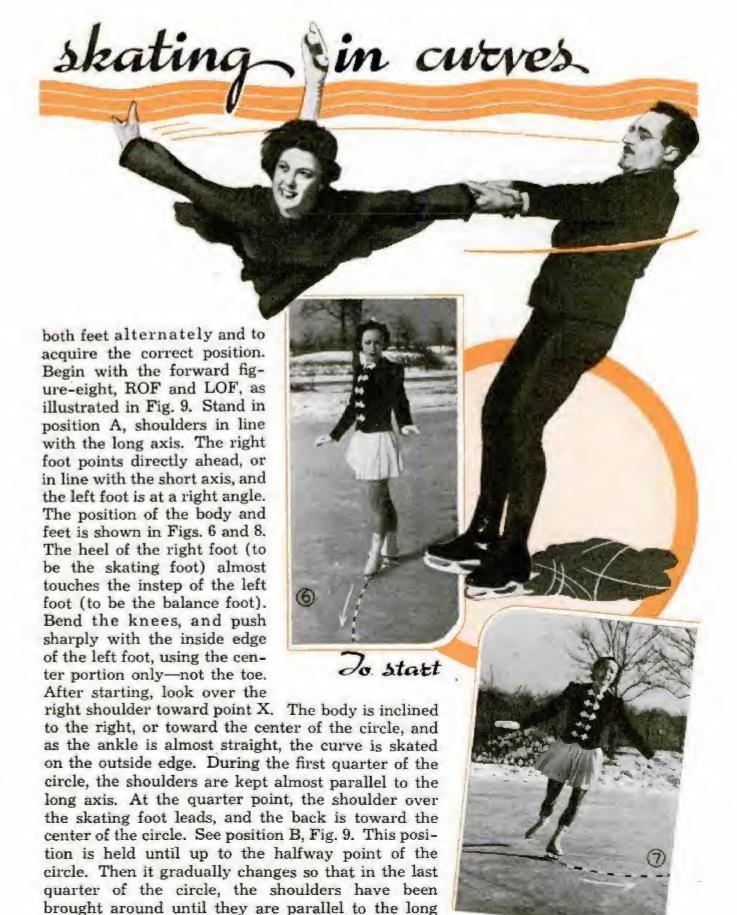


Fig. 6 shows the position for starting, also detailed in Fig. 8. After the start, the balance leg, toe pointed downward, is separated from the skating leg as in Fig. 7, and is turned so that it will be at right angles to the skating leg—also see insert of Fig. 9. Notice the easy, unstrained position of the arms and the erect position of the body

axis, and the body faces the direction of motion as in position D. In the first part of the circle, the balance

foot is carried behind the skating foot, toe down, and

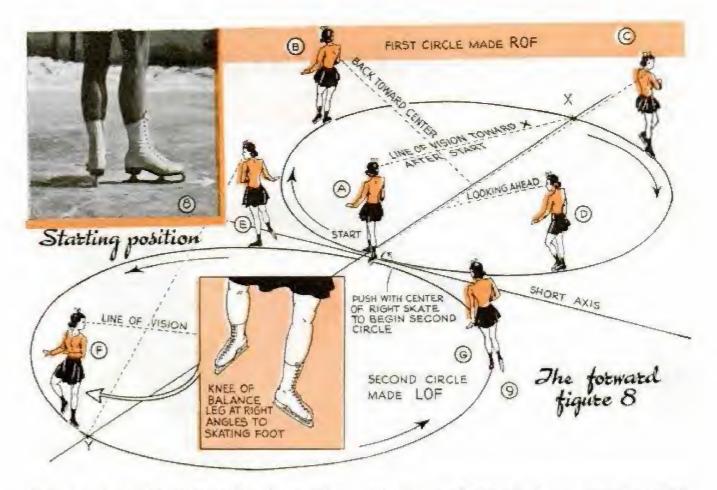
the knee is rotated until the leg is at right angles

with the skating leg, as shown in position B and the

insert of Fig. 9. This position is important, and at

first is a strain on unused muscles. After passing the

halfway point in the circle, position C shows how you



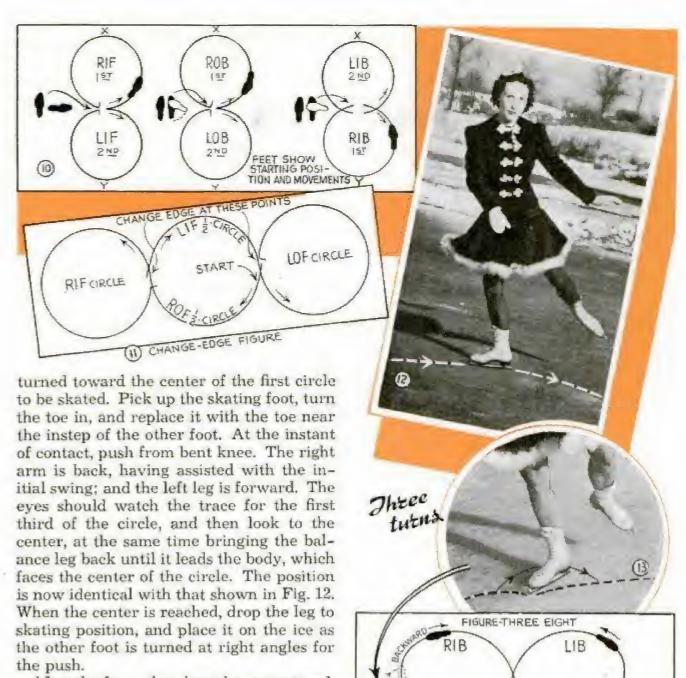
begin to draw the balance foot forward in a smooth motion that brings it to a leading position at the finish of the circle. All this time the toe is pointed down. At the beginning of the circle, the right arm is held with the forearm across the body; the left arm is extended and held almost over the balance leg, as in position B. Then the left arm is brought forward with the balance leg, and the right arm is straightened and placed at the side. After the completion of the first circle, the left foot is placed on the ice at the instant the right foot is turned sharply at right angles to supply the push for the next circle. This push should be obtained by a partial straightening of the knee; the force should be applied against the center of the skate blade—not the toe. In position E, the left forearm is held across the body, while the right leg and arm are used to balance. Now, the skater's line of vision is toward point Y. At position F the skater's back is toward the center of the circle, while the line of vision is diametrically opposite. Then position C is repeated with opposite arms and feet to position G. which is similar to D but with the left arm straightened and the right foot and arm advancing.

After the OF edges, begin with the IF edges, also skated as a figure-eight. See left detail of Fig. 10. Start in the opposite

direction as before, looking toward point X. The left instep should almost touch the right heel and the right foot should point in the direction of the short axis. After bending the knees, push off by partly straightening the left knee. After making a half-circle, look back toward the starting point, and gradually bring the balance foot to a leading position, when it is ready for the next stroke on the other circle.

Next come the two backward edges. Begin with OB figure-eight as in the center detail of Fig. 10, by standing with the body facing point X, both feet parallel to the long axis. Pick up the right foot (which is to trace the circle), turn the toe inward, bend the knees, and replace the right foot on the ice at the instant of pushing off with the inside edge of the left skate. In the first part of the circle, the balance foot remains in the following position. Turn the head and look over the left shoulder. In the second part of the circle, change the balance foot to leading position. The back is all the time partly turned toward the center of the circle. When the starting point is approached, bring the balance foot back, place it on the ice, and at the instant of contact turn the right foot at right angles and push with bent knee.

The IB figure-eight, as in the right detail of Fig. 10, is begun with the back



After the four edges have been mastered, the change-edge figures can be attempted. In these a change is made from a curve on one edge to the opposite curve on the other edge of the same skate. For example, from a start on ROF, a change is made to RIF. If the change is made after a half-circle on ROF, the next half-circle on RIF makes a figure-S. In symbols, the maneuver is ROF to RIF. The change of edge is made during a shift of weight from the front part of the skate (in OF curve) to the rear part (in IF curve). The impulse for the change ROF-RIF is acquired by first moving the balance foot to leading position, and then swinging it back to following position. During the latter motion, the change edge is accomplished. The change-edge figures may take the form of a three-circle eight, as in Fig. 11, with the semi-circle on one edge followed by a full circle on the other edge, and repeated on the other foot.

After the change edge you come to the figure-threes. Where the change edge accomplishes a change of edge without a change in direction, the figure-three changes both edge and direction. As in Fig. 14, start with ROF, just as in the OF circle except that the right arm is advanced. Look at the place where the turn will be made. Keep the skating knee well bent, and allow the swing of the balance foot to provide the initial impetus for the turn. Aid the turn by pointing the right skate to the right, whereupon the body will continue on over the skating foot. As this occurs, the weight is placed on the toe

MAKE CIRCLES 8 TO 12 FEET DIAMETER.

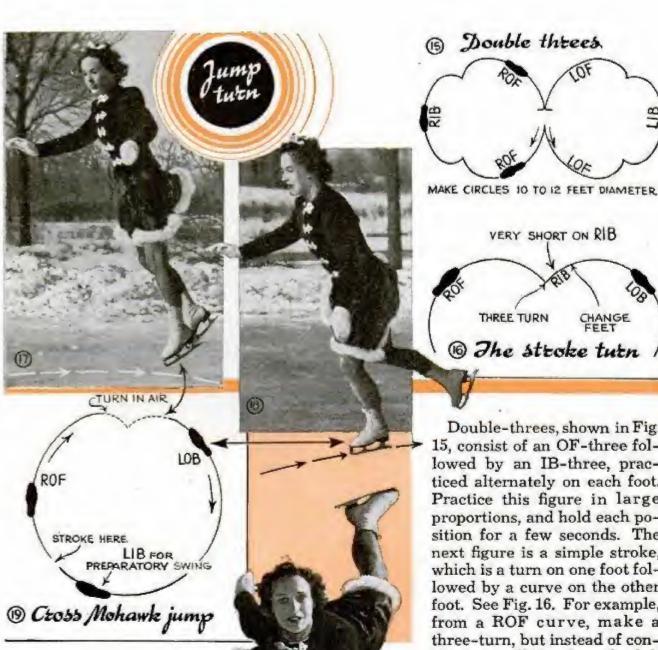
TURN HERE

LOF

(14)

TURN HERE

ROF



of the skate and the heel swung around through 180 degrees. In Fig. 13, the skate is shown as this pivot about the toe is almost completed. After the turn, the balance foot leads, the position is similar to that shown in Fig. The three-turns and the change edges are accompanied by a change of balance which is very similar to that of a bicyclist, who changes his direction by first steering

slightly in the opposite direction in order to throw his balance correctly for the real curve which follows immediately. Likewise, this is true in skating, a curve in one direction is initiated first by a slight curve in the opposite direction. It is this preliminary twist that gives the correct inclination to the body for the lengthy curve.

Double-threes, shown in Fig. 15, consist of an OF-three followed by an IB-three, practiced alternately on each foot. Practice this figure in large proportions, and hold each position for a few seconds. The next figure is a simple stroke, which is a turn on one foot followed by a curve on the other foot. See Fig. 16. For example, from a ROF curve, make a three-turn, but instead of continuing on RIB, place the left foot on the ice in a LOB curve. This step should be practiced

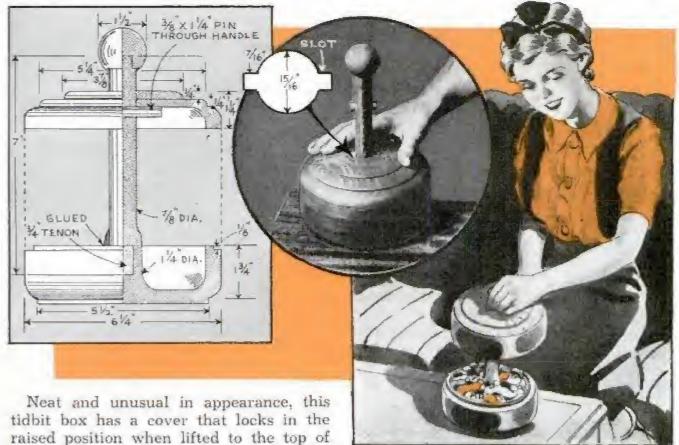
When the turn of a stroke is combined with a short leap into the air, as in Fig. 19, the turn is the Cross Mohawk jump, also called the flying three, and three-jump. By crouching deeply on the skating leg before the jump and sinking deep on the landing leg, the jump is made to look much higher than it actually

is. Fig. 17 shows the skater descending in a three-jump, or Cross Mohawk, while Fig. 18 shows the early part of the landing position. On landing, the balance leg is lifted backward and the arms are outstretched, whereupon the position is similar to that in the back-stop, or Charlotte scratch, shown in Figs. 1 and 20.

on all edges.

@

## Cover of Tidbit Box Locks in Raised Position



Neat and unusual in appearance, this tidbit box has a cover that locks in the raised position when lifted to the top of the handle and given a slight turn. The cover is closed by reversing this procedure—turning the cover slightly to allow the pin in the handle to pass through a slot in the cover. Dimensions and assembly are shown in the left-hand detail. First, turn the box to shape, leaving a projection 1½ in. in diameter in the center. Drill this vertically for the handle, which is turned

with a tenon on both ends, one to slip into the box projection and the other to take the knob or ball at the upper end. Next, turn the lid, drill it in the center to slip over the handle, and slot opposite sides of the hole to pass a pin, which is inserted through the handle as indicated. Assemble the box and finish as desired.

## Old Heating Stove Can Be Repaired Easily with Firebricks



If the lining inside an old heating stove has burned out and you would still like to get a few more years service out of it, line it with firebrick. Twelve to fourteen bricks and a dime's worth of fire clay to use as mortar will be sufficient for most stoves.

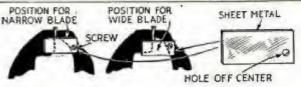
#### Improving the Christmas Tree

An unbalanced Christmas tree may be adapted for decorative purposes by rearranging some of the branches. Cut off excess branches close to the tree and taper the ends of them with a knife. Then bore holes in the trunk where additional branches are needed and insert the tapered ends of the extra ones in the holes, anchoring them in a natural position with glue and small nails.

DECEMBER, 1940 925

#### Guides Permit Filing Band Saw in Ordinary Saw Vise





The addition of these guides to the ends of the stationary jaw of your saw vise converts it to hold a band-saw blade. Drill and tap both ends of the jaw so that rectangular pieces of sheet metal can be pivoted to them to support the blade at the correct height above the jaws.

#### Substitute for a Set of Bar Clamps

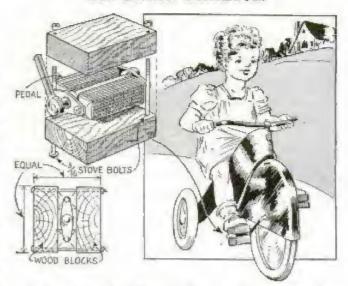
If you do not own a set of bar clamps for handling boards to be glued edge to edge you can make a pair for light work from a couple of large radiator-hose clamps of the type having thumbscrews for tightening them. Sweat or braze an additional sheet-metal strap to each side of the clamp, these straps having holes drilled about an inch apart throughout their lengths. To use the clamps, set them over the edge of



WASTE WOOD

one of the boards of the assembly and insert a large nail or steel rod through the pair of holes that just clear the opposite edge. Insert waste-wood pieces under each nail and also under each thumbscrew to prevent marring the work. Screwing down the thumbscrews with pliers brings the boards tightly together. In case the jointing is not perfect, just lay the assembly on a flat surface with the nail end of the clamps extending over the edge and put a heavy weight over the work.

#### Tricycle Pedals Shorten "Reach" for Small Children



To make the "family" tricycle as easy for the smallest member to pedal as for the largest, one man provided oversize treads for the pedals. Consisting of two blocks of wood clamped to each pedal with stove bolts, these auxiliary treads can be attached or removed in a jiffy.

#### Crotched Stick Driven in Ground Serves as Camp Bootjack

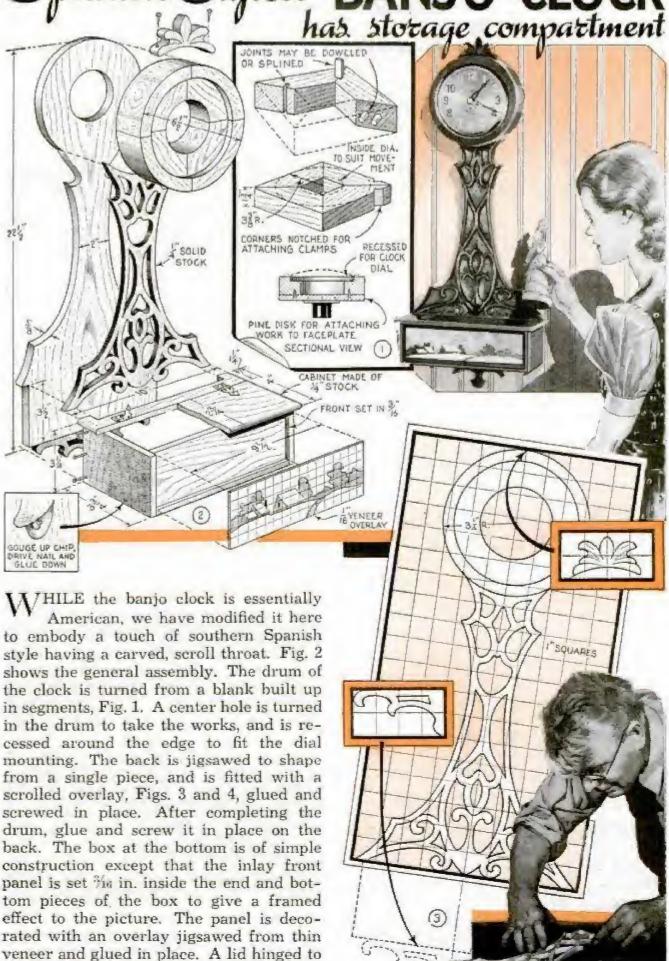
Campers who wear rubber boots will find that a crotched stick will serve as bootjack to remove them. Use a strong stick and drive it into the ground at an angle.



¶Bone handles of steel knives may be whitened by rubbing them with a flannel cloth dipped in peroxide of hydrogen.

WASTE WOOD

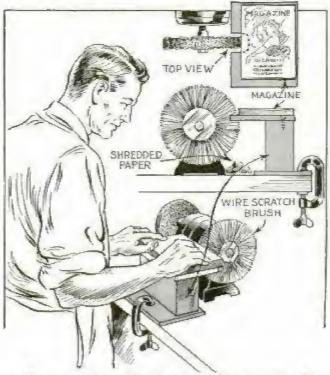
Spanish-Styled BANJO CLOCK has storage compartment



to store numerous small articles,

the top of the box makes it a handy place

#### Scratch Brush Shreds Magazines for Paper-Pulp Novelties



The usual method of making pulp for molded-paper construction is to soak the sheets in water until they are thoroughly saturated and then to agitate the mass until it is sufficiently broken up into small particles. A much better and quicker way to obtain pulp is to shred a number of old pulp magazines with a steel scratch brush. Make a slotted table as shown and set it up close to the wheel. Dampen the magazines to be used as the pulp supply and run them, one at a time, slowly over the table. The wheel will quickly shred the paper into minute particles. The paper can be run through dry, but dampening it is to be preferred as it keeps down dust. Gather up the accumulation of paper shreds and soak it for an hour in warm water and liquid glue. The mass is then ready to mold into any desired shapes.

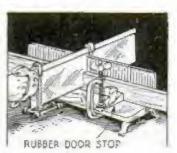
#### Sink Stoppers Better Than Plugs as Clothesline-Post Sockets



Pipe sockets anchored in the ground for the insertion of removable clothesline posts, are usually provided with projecting, wooden plugs to keep out dirt and water when not in use. One housewife replaced them with rubber sink stoppers, purchased at the local dime store. The stoppers may be inserted so that they are practically invisible and flush with the ground. The attached rings make it easy to remove them when desired.

#### Rubber Door Stop Holds Work in Miter Box

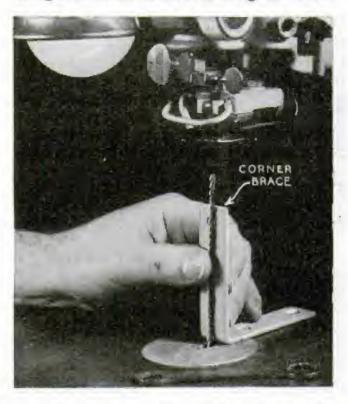
The difficulty of holding a board securely in the miter box can be overcome by clamping a rubber door stop onto the box so that the blunt end of the



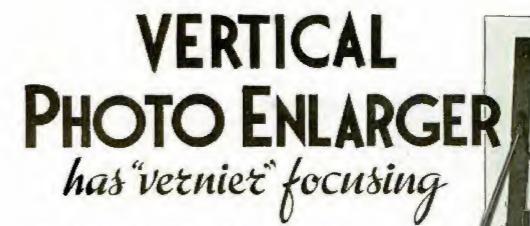
wedge rests firmly against the board. The wedge may be lifted easily for the adjustment or removal of the board.

#### BraceStraightensScroll-SawBlade

A scroll-saw blade will not operate satisfactorily unless it is at right angles to the saw table, and much time can be saved by using a metal corner brace as a guide when



replacing blades. By holding the blade against the guide, which rests on the table, the blade will be absolutely perpendicular. It can then be locked permanently into the chucks without testing.



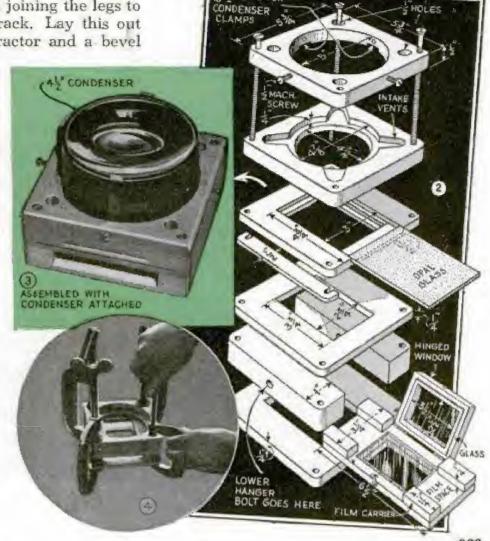
By ALEXANDER MAXWELL

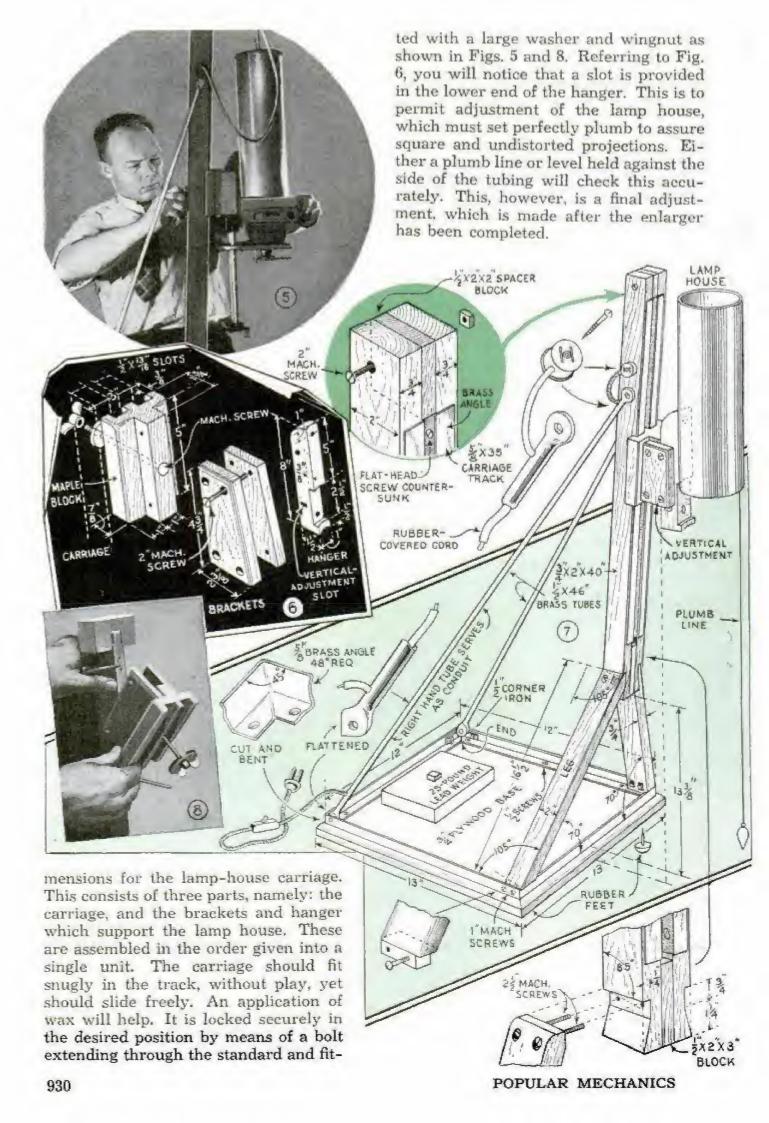
EMBODYING features found in expensive commercial models, the enlarger shown in Fig. 1 offers the home photo finisher an efficient unit which can be built inexpensively, using ordinary hand tools.

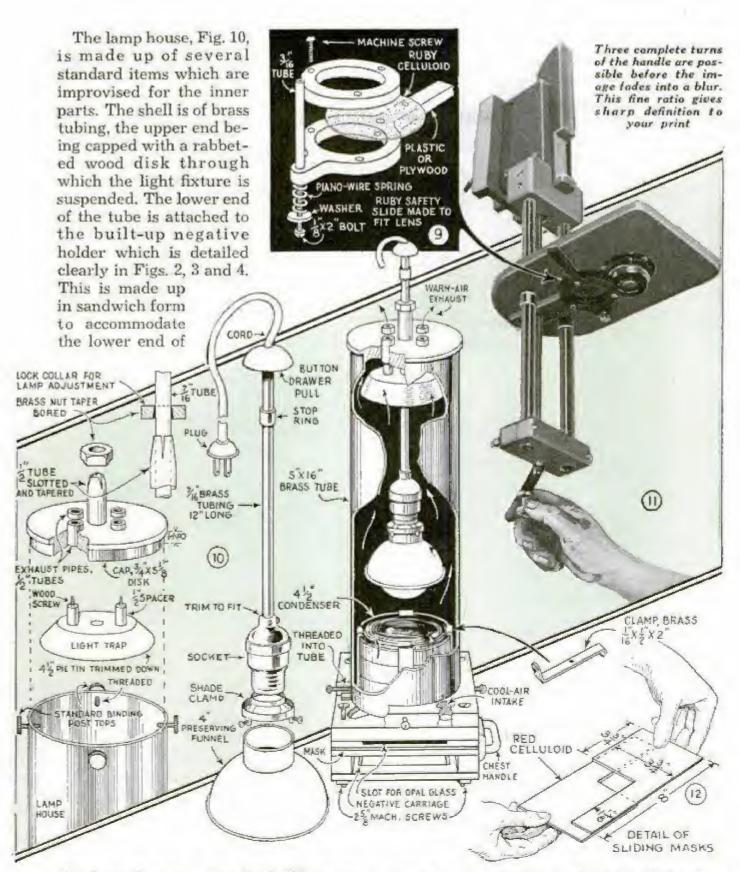
Details of the construction of the vertical framework, which can be made of birch, mahogany or other hardwood, are given in Fig. 7. The groove in the fork-shaped standard which provides a track for the lamp-house carriage, is formed by fitting ½-in. thick spacer blocks at each end of two outer members as shown in the circular detail. The detail below Fig. 7 shows the type of joint used in joining the legs to the lower end of the track. Lay this out carefully, using a protractor and a bevel

gauge to transfer the lines accurately to both sides of the piece. When fitted properly, this will give the standard the required 5-degree rake. The base is made of plywood, around the outer edge of which is screwed a metal frame of brass angle. To the corners of this frame are bolted the legs of the standard and the tubular supports. To offset the weight of the overhanging lamp house, a 25-lb. lead weight must be attached to the base as shown. This you can cast in a simple wood form from scraps of lead pipe.

Fig. 6 gives full di-



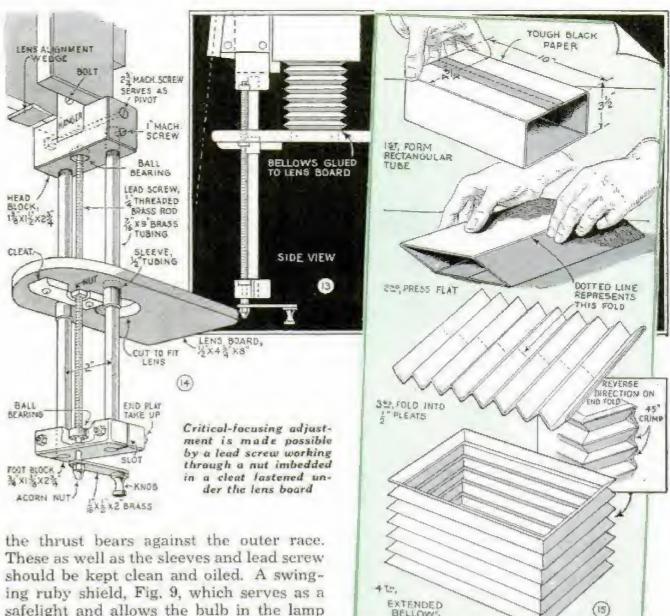




the lamp house, a standard 4½-in. condenser, opal ground glass, masks and a film carrier. The opal glass is provided to diffuse the strong light passing through the condenser, while the masks, Fig. 12, permit undesirable portions of the negative to be blocked off. The film-carrier will accommodate 35-mm. film, and cut films up to 2½ by 3½ in. The condenser is clamped in the assembled unit with four brass strips bent as shown in Fig. 12. These engage in

notches cut in the underside of the top layer, Fig. 2, and are held with set screws which pass through tapped holes in the lamp house and butt against the strips.

To the lower end of the lamp-house hanger is attached the focusing unit shown in Figs. 11 and 14. The lens board travels vertically on two parallel tubular guides by means of a lead screw supported in small ball bearings mounted in head and foot blocks. Mount the bearings so that



safelight and allows the bulb in the lamp house to burn continuously while in use, is attached to the underside of the lens board as shown in Fig. 11.

If you prefer making the bellows instead of purchasing it, Fig. 15 shows successive steps to follow in folding one of paper or heavy cloth. To make it fold properly, the end pleats must be reversed alternately. That is, if the crease is inward, press it outward. Make a complete round of each fold before starting the next. When completed, the bellows is glued in place over the opening in the lens board and to the underside of the lamp house, as shown in Fig. 13.

It is recommended that a lens of high quality be mounted in the lens board, preferably a F. 3.5 or F. 4.5 having a focal length of 3½ in, and an iris diaphram of at least an F. 22 stop. Such type lens, made expressly for enlargers, can be purchased from camera or optical supply houses. While the construction of the lamp house permits the use of much larger bulbs without excessive heating, a 60-watt bulb will

be found adequate. If 110-volt current is not available, a high-intensity searchlight bulb may be used, operating it from a regular 6-volt storage battery.

#### 'Shock Absorbers' on Light Stand Protect Bulb Filaments

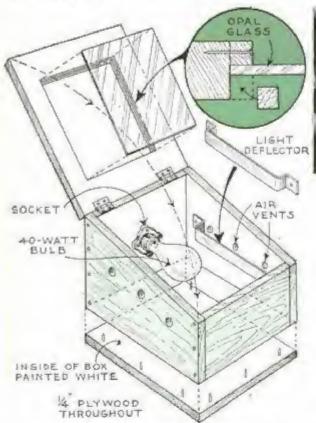


BELLOWS

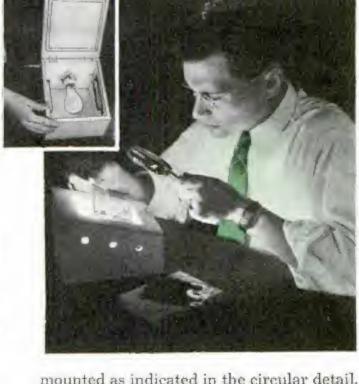
When a telescoping reflector stand is lowered quickly, the shock caused by the sections coming together is sometimes sufficient to break the filament of a photoflood

bulb. If the stand is taken apart and a softrubber grommet slipped over each section, the grommets will absorb the shock and prevent injury to the bulb.

#### Simple Viewer to Check Your Photo Negatives



Amateur photographers will find this viewer handy for examining negatives or color transparencies. It is nothing more than a small plywood box having a sloping, hinged cover, which has an opening cut in it to take a piece of frosted glass, which is



mounted as indicated in the circular detail. A socket and lamp inside the box are wired to a switch mounted at the back for controlling the light. Ventilating holes are cut in the sides near the top. Strips of sheet metal painted black are fastened about ½ in. behind the holes to prevent direct rays from escaping through them.

#### Lettering Lines Scored on Glossy Prints with a Ruling Pen

Uniform lettering can be done on glossy photographs if guide lines are first scribed with a ruling pen. Set the jaws of the pen as wide as the letters are to be high and draw it very lightly across the print. The lines will show well enough to do the lettering but will not be noticeable afterward.

#### Trimming Picture to Fit Frame



Although the method shown here is very simple, it is seldom thought of when it is necessary to trim a picture to fit a frame. Re-

move the glass from the frame and lay it on the picture, moving it until it covers the desired part. Then trim around the edges with a sharp knife or a razor blade.



#### Burned-Out Electric Fuses Used as Water-Color Cups

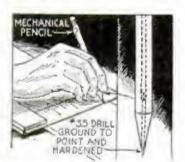


Electric fuses having glass cases provide neat cups for holding small amounts of water color used for tinting snapshots and photographs. Just remove the metal parts, fill the glass cup with color and you are ready to start work.—C. M. Black, Chicago.

#### Safety Pocket Scriber Made Easily from Automatic Pencil

An ordinary ten-cent automatic pencil can be converted into a pocket scriber by

merely substituting a No. 55 drill
for the lead. The
drill is ground to
a sharp point and
hardened before
using. As the pencil mechanism will
pull the drill in
and out of the end



in the same way that it would the lead, this gives you a scriber that can be carried safely in the pocket and is also already fitted with a pocket clip.

-Ralph H. Graham, Gatun, Canal Zone.

#### YOU'LL BE PROUD of These MODELS

Do you want a model of one of the most outstanding warships in history? Then build the "Sovereign of the Seas." Complete information on the construction of this ornately decorated and highly picturesque model, 34 in. long and 26 in. high over all, is given in our plans Nos. 828 to 835 incl., priced at \$1.50. Descriptive text in bound book, \$1.00 additional



#### Other Worth-While Models

"Flying Cloud" Clipper Ship—709 to 714A: No collection is complete without a clipper. Plans include full-size lift templates. \$1.25. Descriptive data in book form \$1.25 extra.

"Grecian Trireme"—1036 to 1039: A model that is decidedly unusual. Hull is carved from 36-in. length of 2 by 6-in. fir. \$1.00.

"Half Moon"—717 to 718A: Model of boat used by Dutch Seaman, Henry Hudson. Fine example of ships of early 1600's. 24 in. long. \$1,00.

"Atlantic" Locomotive—1032 to 1035: Working model of world's first mountain climber. 1/48th actual size. Runs on 0-gauge track. \$1.00.

"Railplane"—1040 and 1041: Latest design in air-propelled streamlined locomotives for attic railroaders. No machine work required, 50c.

"Sea Bee"—965 to 968: 32-in, speed boat for circular race courses. Powered by midget gas engine. Develops speed of 20 to 25 m.p.h. \$1.00.

Model Colonial Cannon-735: Perfect 10-in. miniature of guns used during days of 1776. 25c.

Any six individual plans (not sets of plans) will be sent postpaid upon receipt of \$1.00

Address-Popular Mechanics Plan Service, 200 East Ontario Street, Chicago, Ill.

# RADIO

### TINY PERSONAL RECEIVER

ONE of the smallest practical radio receivers ever built, this completely self-contained battery portable has built-in antenna, and no exposed controls. Despite its compact size and 4-lb. weight, it is claimed to be able to pick up stations 50 or more miles away by day or night.

Four miniature RCA tubes, a little more than an inch in length, were designed especially for the receiver and developed after three years of research. It operates on the two batteries, an A-type (ordinary flashlight variety) of 1½ volts and a new type 67 ½-volt B-battery. Housed in a black metal shell measuring approximately 9 in. long, 3½ in.

wide and 3 in. deep, it is equipped with a strap so that it may be slung over the shoulder, like a camera. A black steel cover, containing an inbuilt loop antenna, pro-



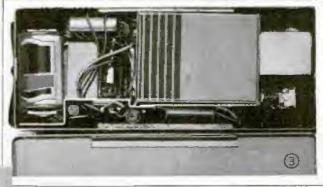


tects the speaker and dials. Raising the lid turns the power on automatically. Space is provided on the chromium face of the cover for the owner's initials.

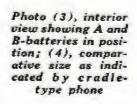
Suitable for use in home or office as indicated in photo (1), it is carried as shown in photo (2), or the shoulder strap may be employed if desired. Photo (3) is an interior

view with bottom cover removed. The receiver covers the standard broadcast band and may be used in hotels, on trains, boats or in cars to hear important world news. An efficient built-in speaker provides

world news. An efficient built-in speaker provides entertainment for small groups at the beach, on hikes, picnics or skating parties. Similar larger portables are frequently seen at baseball and football games, the owners listening to sports announcers broadcasting the game, play by play, over



local stations.



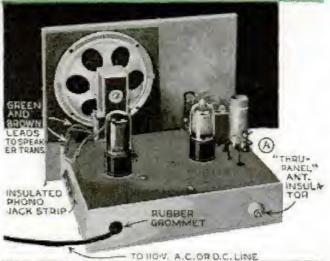
DECEMBER, 1940

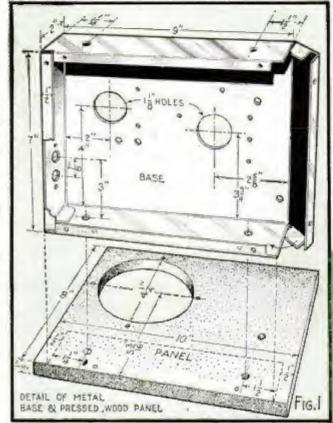
Camolen.

935

## LOW-COST RECEIVER







HERE is an easy-to-build set for the experimenter who wants not only a receiver but also an amplifier for playing phonograph records. The unit is inexpensive, thanks to the simplicity of the two-tube circuit which employs a pair of the

new dual-purpose tubes, yet has over a watt of good clean audio output with surprisingly good tone quality.

Two volume controls are provided on the set, so that the "radio" section can be shut off and the amplifier portion of the receiver used to amplify the output of any inexpensive "record player."

Suitable record players, complete with pick-up and motor-driven turntable, are available at prices ranging from \$6.00 up. The more expensive the player, of course, the better the tone quality.

The tubes used in the unit are the 25B8-GT and the 70L7-GT. The former is a combined pentode and triode used as an r.f. amplifier and power detector, while the 70L7-GT serves as a rectifier and beampower output tube. When employed as a phono amplifier, the triode section of the 25B8-GT provides a driver audio stage, swinging the 70L7-GT to an output level which is sufficient for the average room if the volume control is turned on fully.

To simplify construction the set is built in an open "panel-chassis" layout. A standard 2 by 7 by 9-in. chassis base, available from radio parts houses for about 40 cents, is punched and drilled as shown in Fig. 1; the front panel consists of a piece of Celotex, ½ by 8 by 10 in., cut and drilled as detailed in sketch, sanded, and given a coat



and PHONO AMPLIFIER

of aluminum paint. This panel provides an excellent baffle effect and adds materially to the tone of the set. The speaker is a 5-in, permanent-magnet dynamic type bolted to the panel against a piece of grille cloth as indicated in photos A and B. This speaker comes with locking lugs for mounting the speaker output transformer in the position shown in photo C.

Although the circuit is a little unusual, wiring is quite simple, all connections being indicated clearly in the simplified wiring diagram, Fig. 2, and schematic circuit

diagram Fig. 3. Please notice that the chassis base is not used for the standard "ground return" leads as all of the B negative leads are carried on insulated tiestrips instead. Rubber insulating grommets are employed where it is neessary to run leads through the chassis. A large rubber grommet is also used to pass the power cord through the chassis base. It will be noted that the r.f. coil (L2) is mounted on top of the base by means of a small bracket, the position of which determines the numbering code employed in the diagrams. Antenna coil (L1) is installed in a horizontal position under the (Continued to page 132A) R.F. COIL ON TOP OF BASE POINTER KNOW 370 MMFD. 2-GANG VARIABLE COND. FRONT STATOR C SEC. SWITCH & STATOR CA 505.000 - 0HM CAP FOR 2596-6T BROWN-SOFT PRESSED WOOD PANEL

> Ro 10,000-08M VOL. CONTROL

2588-G1

THRU PANEL

200 V. J. OI MED.

+ 20 MFD. \_ ELECT, 150 V.

BOTTOM

ELECT.

150 V.

100

FIG.2

0

0

IO MFD. CK

**5**/70L7-61

GROMMET

UP 10 NO.5

- C

GROMMET

O

BOTTON VIEW HEAVY WIRE LEAD

COIL LI

BRACKET.

ANT. COIL UNDER.

10 1104. A.C.

OR D.C. LINE

HALUG

ANT, POST

5" P.M.

SPEAKER

GREEN

INSULATED

PHONO JACK

FIXED RESISTORS 1 = 30,000 OHMS, 1 WATE

43 - 5 MEGOHMS, & WATT 54 - 500,000 ONMS, WATT 86 - 4,000 ONMS, TWATT

Ry = 150 OHMS, I WATT

Res 25 DHMS, SWATT Rg = 135 OHMS (IN LINE

R1: = 250,000 OHMS, 12 WATT

CORD) 910 1 1,500 OHMS, &WATT

#### "Snapshots in Sound" by Home Recording



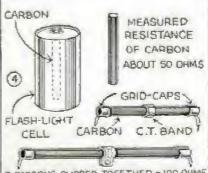
HOME recordings are like photographic snapshots, one records voices and the other likenesses. Many of the new phonoradio receivers and record players now include recording facilities complete with cutting head, extension cord and microphone. Home recording with these units provides the owner with a means for making his own library of "snapshots in sound"-of the voices of his family and friends, of parties and state occasions, and of important radio broadcasts. It also offers many practical applications in addition to furnishing entertainment. The records may be played back immediately.

The portable unit (A) is a recording record player for making and playing records of any type in conjunction with a modern receiver, thus combining the functions of a record player and recorder. Photos (B) and (C) show table model recorder-radiophono combinations; the girls in the lower photo are making a recording of piano and song for their collection. Although anyone can soon learn to make good recordings, a few pointers for the beginner will be helpful. When making records, a tiny weight-limiting scale should be used, as shown in Fig. 1, to adjust the cutting head to the manufacturer's specifications. Correctly adjusted needle for accurate tracking when playing back records will prevent uneven wear on a needle point and greatly increase the useful life of the record, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3.





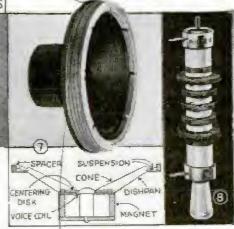
(2) Compact jewel pilot-light assembly and a fuse holder which mount directly on panel or base by means of two small machine screws. Fuse holder has slotted top for screwdriver removal to replace fuse. (3) Simple wave trap eliminates amateur code interference in broadeast receivers; standard or homemade plug-in short-wave coils used. Winding given is for 80-meter band. Inexpensive coils are available for all amateur bands



is an 18-it. 2 by 4-in. piece and two 1/4 by 6-in, pieces 18 ft. long lapped as shown; bottom ends are spread 3 1/2 ft. apart. Mast is counter-balanced on %-in. pipe trunnion and spacing blocks

> (4) Center-tapped resistors made from earbon rods removed from old, Rash-light cells. Carbons are boiled in strong soda solution and dried. (5) Small bench vise made from strap hinge. (6) Miniature filament-type pentode tubes; A-bat-tery drain for 2 tubes in series is only 30 milliamperes at 1.4 volts.
> (7) "Accordion edge" speaker for low-frequency response in small cabinets. (8) High-impedance ironcore R.F. chake of improved design





DECEMBER, 1940

#### Over-the-Shoulder Portable Set Is Light and Compact



Less than 5 in. high, 10 in. wide and 4 in. deep, this strap-around portable uses a specially designed shoulder strap in which the antenna is braided and concealed. Fifty inches of antenna surface make pick-up simple, no matter where the set is used.

#### Ten-Tube 35-Watt Mobile Unit



This improved mobile publicaddress amplifier is entirely self-contained; there is no power pack to buy or attach. Ideal for both rural and city districts for use with sound trucks, or at dances, carnivals

and political meetings, it operates eight speakers without external transformers. A 12-in. turntable is included with an "off-

on" switch so that the amplifier can be operated with or without phono. Operates on 6-volt battery or 110-volt a.c. line.

#### D.C. to A.C. Phono Inverter

Midget phonograph inverter for operating a.c. motor-driven phono turntables on direct-current lines. Inverts 110 volts d.c. to 110-volts



a.c., 60 cycles at 15-watt output. Also works electric razors and similar a.c. devices.

### Five-Tube Radio in World Globe

Housed in a world globe, this unusual receiver employs five tubes and speaker in a compact chassis; two tubes are dual-purpose types. Set is tuned by revolving the globe. Switch, volume control and pilot light are located on base.

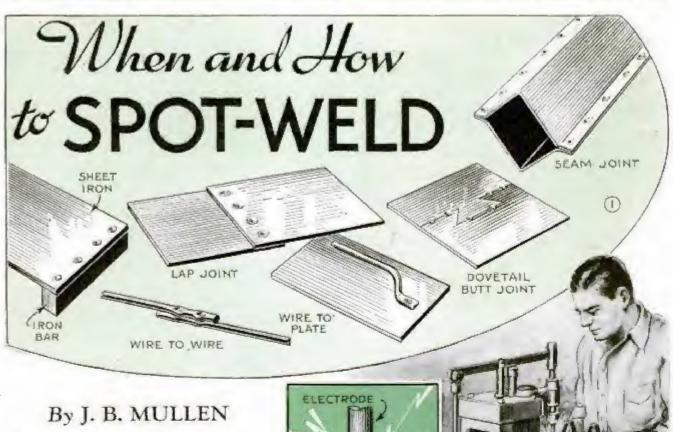


• Blueprints covering radio construction articles in this and past issues are available for 25 cents each. Original material lists, with names of manufacturers and dealers, can be obtained from our Radio Department upon receipt of postage.

NEXT MONTH—How to Build an A.C.-D.C. Two-Tube All-Wave Receiver. A simple and efficient all-wave set with standard plug-in coils; easy to build, low in cost and an excellent performer on broadcast and short waves. Operates 5-in. speaker. Also—How to Build a Combination Crystal Receiver and Test Set



## SHOP NOTES



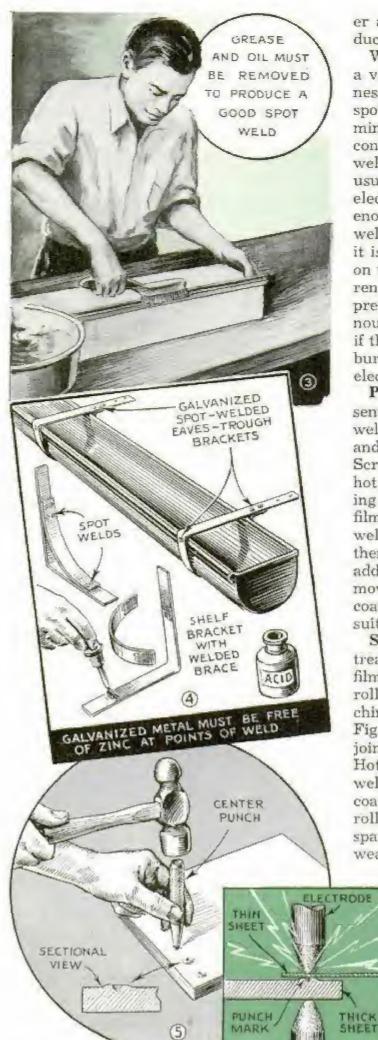
NEW possibilities in the field of sheet-metal work are open to a craftsman who is efficient with a spot welder. It enables him to build articles that he would not attempt to put together with other types of fastenings. Sheet-metal cabinets and shelves, small tables, tool racks and supports, cases, tackle boxes, and toys are among

the many articles on which spot-welding

can be used to advantage.

Spot-welding technique: Spot-welding is a simple process in which two metal parts are welded at a series of points or "spots" along the seam joint. The work to be joined is placed between the electrodes, or welding coppers, as shown in Fig. 2. Pressure on the foot pedal or hand lever brings the electrodes together, thereby pressing the parts into intimate contact and at the same time causing the heavy welding current to flow through the joint. The heat thus produced fuses the parts togeth-





er at the point of electrode contact, producing a spot weld.

With a little practice, excellent welds on a variety of metals up to 1/16 in. in thickness can be made on small, low-priced spot-welding equipment. However, aluminum, copper, and alloys such as brass containing these metals cannot be spotwelded successfully on the type of machine usually found in the small shop, as their electrical resistance is too low to generate enough heat except on very high-capacity welders of special design. In spot-welding it is important to use the proper pressure on the electrodes and not to hold the current on for too long a time. If too much pressure is used, there will be a pronounced "dimple" at the spot weld, while if the current is left on for too long a time, burning of the metal and sticking of the electrodes will result.

Preparation for spot-welding: It is essential in spot-welding, as in any type of welding, that the work be thoroughly clean and free from grease and oily matter. Scrubbing the metal with a stiff brush in hot soapy water containing a little washing soda will generally remove this oily film, Fig. 3. The work should be rinsed well in hot water to remove all soap, and then dried before welding. In some cases, additional preparation is necessary to remove plating, rust, scale, or other surface coating and expose a clean metal surface suitable for welding.

Spot-welding iron and steel: No pretreatment, other than removing the greasy film, is required in spot-welding coldrolled steel. This metal is primarily a machine-shop material and the sketches in Fig. 1 illustrate time-saving spot-welded joints that can be made on this material. Hot-rolled steels and black iron can be welded in the same manner, but the black coating or mill scale usually found on hotrolled steels is likely to cause flashing or sparking during welding, and also tends to weaken the weld. Warm, uncut hydro-

> chloric (muriatic) acid applied on the area to be welded, after removal of the grease film, is usually sufficient to remove the interfering coating in about a minute. The acid should be rinsed off thoroughly in hot water as soon as the scale has been removed.

> Galvanized iron: Zinc coatings on iron or steel tend to produce a

weaker and more brittle weld and make corrosion of the electrode tips more rapid. Where there is any strain on the weld itself, such as in the brackets and supports shown in Fig. 4, the galvanizing must be removed from the surfaces to be welded by brushing them with hydrochloric (muriatic) acid diluted with an equal quantity of hot water. After one minute, rinse the acid off with hot water and dry the pieces thoroughly before welding. The weld can be protected against rust by a coating of good aluminum paint.

On small parts made of galvanized iron, in which there is no strain on the weld and strength is not important, it is possible to make a "tack" weld to hold the parts in position by spot-welding. However, the weld will be brittle and it is recommended that the zinc coating be stripped off before spot-welding galvanized iron.

Tin plate (terne plate): Tin coatings on steel cause little or no interference, and a joint made by spot-welding tin plate is strong and durable. Cleaning other than removing grease is not necessary. Tin plate will be found excellent for making air ducts, vents, small boxes or containers, and numerous other articles on the spot welder.

Stainless steel: Since stainless steels have a high electrical resistance, spotwelding is one of the best methods of joining them. The welds are strong and the stainless properties of the finished object are not impaired at the joints by the addition of other metals, as is the case in other types of welds on stainless steel. The blue discoloration around each spot weld usually can be removed by rubbing the spot with fine emery paper and polishing either on a buffing wheel or by hand.

Applications of spot-welding: Spot-welding can be applied, in general, to any joint or seam in sheet metal in the various metals outlined above. While it is possible to spot-weld heavier stock, it requires very large currents and is beyond the capacity of small welding equipment. Fig. 1 shows a number of types of joints that can be made with a small spot welder. When thin sheets are spot-welded to thick sheets, the latter are center-punched as in Fig. 5. The punch marks tend to localize the heat and a good weld results.

Next time you have to use a radiator brush, slip an old stocking over it.

#### Drying of Printing-Press Rollers Avoided by Oil Bath



The tendency of glue-coated rollers on a small job-printing press to soften in moist weather and to harden in dry weather, can be avoided by storing them in an oil bath when not in use. A long container that is oil tight will do for storing and is filled with a mixture of kerosene and auto lubricating oil. This is easily washed off the rollers with gasoline.

#### Cutting Sheet Rubber Accurately

The next time you have some sheet rubber to cut, try covering both sides of it with Cellophane. This tends to prevent the rubber from "creeping" under the blade of the shears. A piece of Cellophane, such as that taken from a package of cigarettes, will serve the purpose for small work.



#### Bolt Ends on Butcher's Block Shielded to Protect Clothes



After damaging his clothing on the exposed tie-rod ends of his meat-cutting block, one butcher shielded the ends with metal. Individual pie tins are ideal for this purpose and can be purchased at any tencent store. They can be attached with short brads or tacks.

#### Rubber-Tired Cart Pulled Easily on Soft Ground

Rubber-tired wheels on this cart permit moving heavy loads easily over soft ground. The wheels and axle are the front end assembly from an old car, the wheels being set in a straight-ahead position and the steering arms locked to the axle to keep them in place. The box, which is bolted to the axle, is made of any lumber available and is of a size to hold approximately 12 bushels of corn. A length of angle iron bent to a V-shape and bolted to



the underside of the box near the rear end serves as a rest to prevent tipping when the operator lets loose of the handles.

#### Flap over Hook Keeps Calf from Opening Gate

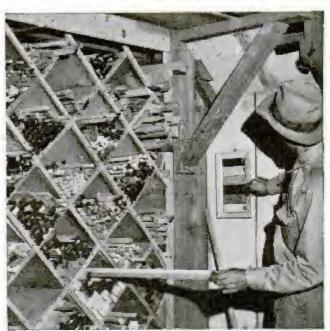
To keep a calf from nosing open the latch of its pen gate, one farmer tacked a flap of fairly stiff rubber over it as shown. The flap prevented the calf from lifting the latch but



was easily pushed down by the attendant when the gate was to be opened.

#### Handling of Molding in Stock Simplified by Color Chart

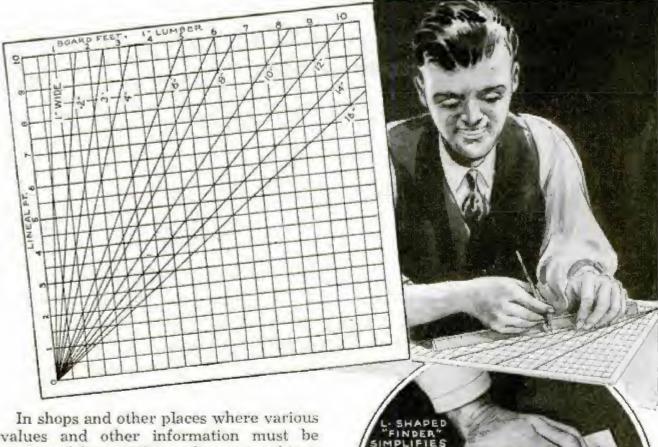
By painting the ends of molding strips in colors corresponding to those on a chart posted on the wall, a lumber company keeps its stock balanced according to lengths, and greatly simplifies taking of an inventory. Before the strings are cut on



the bundles of each size of molding, a brush full of paint is wiped across the ends of the molding strips, after which the strips are sorted into bins according to sizes. When taking an inventory, the stockman can tell at a glance at the colored ends of the pieces just how much lineal feet of each size he has on hand.

—L. S. Flint, Boulder, Colo.

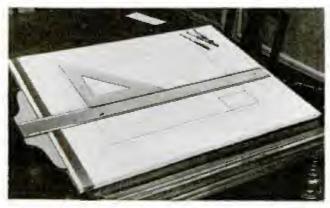
#### Straight-Line Graphs to Tabulate Shop Data



values and other information must be computed frequently on the same subject, graphs can be made that will show at a glance the area of sheets of copper, brass, iron, etc., weights of sheets of given gauge, weights of wire of a given gauge and length, as well as the tapers of given lengths of work, number of turns of wire in a given coil layer, number of nails in a pound and dozens of other uses. For example, you can find the number of board feet in any piece of lumber at a glance with the graph illustrated. To make it, on paper marked off in squares, lay out a scale, using the vertical lines to represent lineal feet and the horizontal ones to represent board feet. A 12-in. board 1 in. thick and 10 ft. long contains 10 board feet.

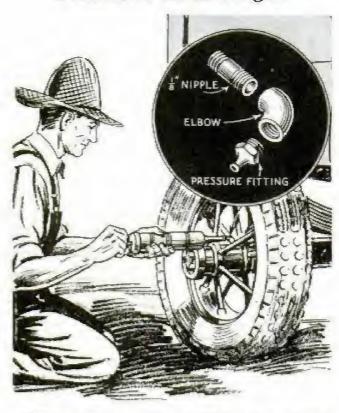
A straight line drawn from 0 to the intersection of the 10-ft. line with the 10 board-foot line shows all possible values in steps of 3 in. in length, or forty values in all, as the result of one easy computation.

#### Master Plan Inked on Drawing-Board Cover Saves Time



When making a series of sheets, all with the same size margin and title space, time is saved by covering your drawing board with white oilcloth on which these lines are heavily inked. They show through cloth or paper and are easily traced. When finished, they may be washed off with soap and water. The cover also preserves the surface of the board and it will remain smooth and flat much longer than if left exposed.—J. R. Carr, Chicago.

#### Pressure-Gun Fittings to Grease Wheels of Farm Wagon



Why strain your back lifting the wheels off a heavy wagon, or fuss with a clumsy jack to lubricate them when you can install a pressure fitting in the hub of each wheel and do the job in a fraction of the usual time? A hole is tapped as near the center of the hub as possible for a pipe nipple, usually 1/8 in. for the common fitting. Then install the nipple and an elbow into which the fitting is screwed. On most wheels this is necessary to get the fitting out where you can reach it easily with the gun. On certain iron wheels with straight hubs there is no need for the nipple or elbow. Use a 45° fitting. Wood wheels can be provided with the fittings by tapping a short length of iron pipe into the iron bushing inside the wheel.

#### Tin Shield Protects Blowtorch Carried in Toolbox



Plumbers, electricians, and others who often have to carry a small blowtorch in a box with other tools can prevent the mechanism of the torch from being damaged by slipping a metal shield over it as indicated. The shield is nothing more than a tin can of suitable size with one end removed and a slot cut in one side to slip over the nozzle.

#### Spanner Wrench Is Improvised from Pair of Pliers

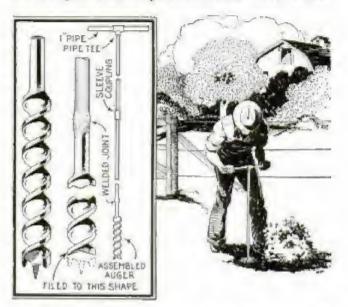
Users of replaceable chaser die heads of the type shown will find this adjustable spanner wrench handy. It is made by drilling and tapping the jaws of a pair of cheap gas pliers to



take two short pins made from ¼-in. drill rod. The pins are hardened and should project about ½ in. above the plier jaws.
—S. J. Gancher, Richmond Hill, L. I., N. Y.

#### Auger to Take Deep Soil Samples Made with Wood Auger Bit

A worm-type soil auger for taking samples of subsoil on farms and other places where such work is important, can be made from an old 1½-in. wood auger bit. Grind off the point and lips and file the end of the



bit as indicated. Pitch of one cutting edge should be slightly greater than that used for boring wood. After this has been done, cut off the shank of the bit and weld a 6-ft. length of ½-in. rod to it. For deep borings, a coupling sleeve can be provided and more than one length of rod used. A handle can be made from pipe and fittings.

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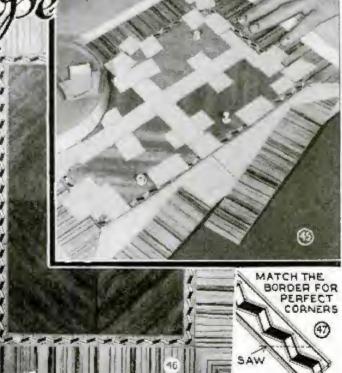


of CRAFTWORK

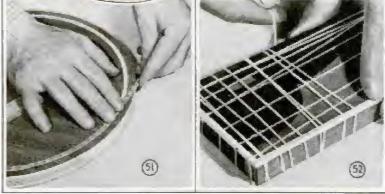
#### PART II

FOLLOWING the simpler types of veneering, such as making panels, matching veneers, etc., described last month, we now progress into the more intricate types, such as inlaying bands and borders, making curved panels and doing hammer veneering.

Inlay bands and borders: Inlay bands are available in a variety of widths and patterns in lengths of about 40 in. Usually, the banding is taped together with the veneers

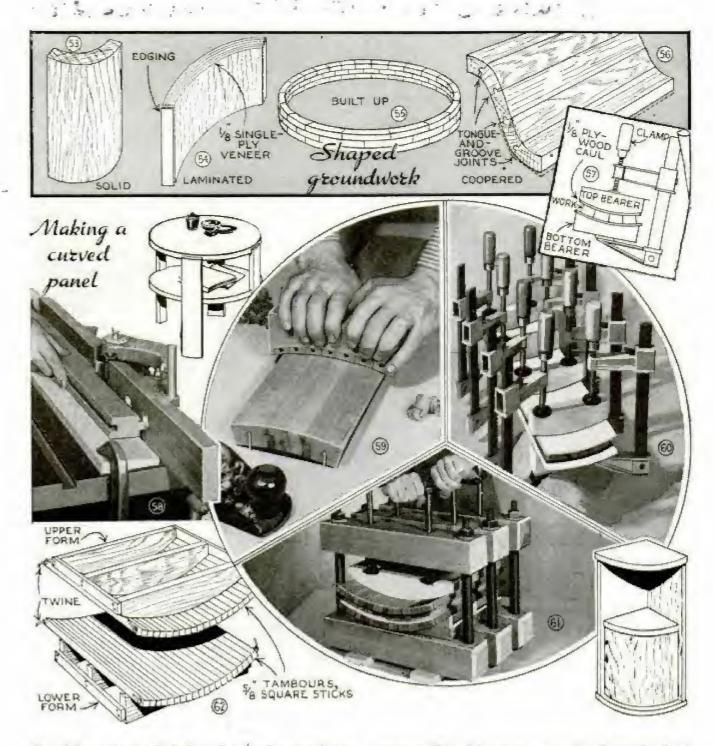






previous to gluing. Fig. 45 shows a typical panel comprising a mahogany diamond with banding and border being assembled. The work is done on a full-size paper pattern. Push pins or dabs of glue can be used to hold the various pieces in place. Both the banding and border should be matched at the mitered corners. This is done by matching two pieces together as in Fig. 47, and then mitering. Holding the two pieces in the same position, the joint is cleaned up by sanding as in Fig. 48. The border strips are cut across the grain from a suitable piece of veneer. Then adjacent strips are placed together so that the grain matches, after which the corner is mitered and sanded as before. Fig. 46 shows the finished panel after gluing and cleaning up.

Very narrow bandings are often laid in a groove routed in the veneered surface, Fig. 49. Glue is applied to the banding, which is then pressed into the groove, as in Fig. 51. It should fit tightly and



should project slightly above the surface so that it can be sanded flush after the glue has dried. Lengths of square inlay, commonly called strings, frequently are inlaid at the edges of a veneered surface. They can be held in place by wrapping with string, Fig. 52, or, if the work is large, by using the method shown in Fig. 50.

Shaped groundwork: Curved surfaces over which veneer is to be laid can be made by using one of the four methods shown in Figs. 53 to 56 inclusive. Small work usually can be cut from solid stock, as in Fig. 53. Laminating, Fig. 54, is ideal for large work. The built-up or breadand-butter groundwork is made easily and has the advantage that scrap cuttings can be cleaned up and used as cauls. Coopered

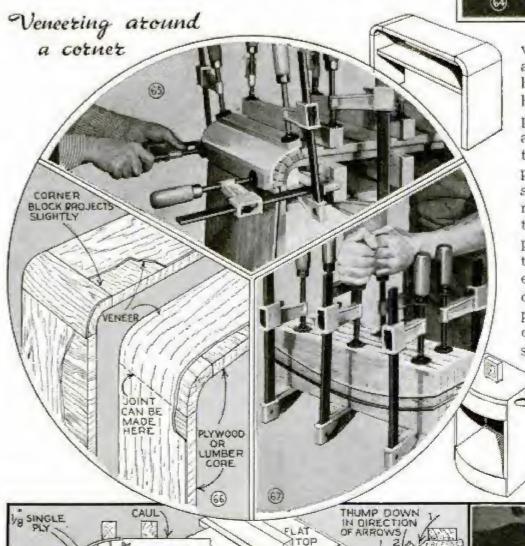
curves, Fig. 56, are a standard method of working, excellent in structural soundness but demanding considerable handwork in shaping the surface.

Making a curved panel: The ground-work is made first, using soft wood such as poplar or white pine. Construction will depend on the nature of the work. In the case of a table leg curved across the face, a coopered groundwork would be suitable. A full-size paper pattern is made to show the number of pieces required and the angle at the joints. The pieces are then cut on a shaper, Fig. 58, and assembled with glue. Handwork with sandpaper tacked to shaped blocks, as shown in Fig. 59, is the most practical method of securing a finished surface, although roughing can be

done with a variety of other tools. The work can now be veneered. Both cross-banding and veneer are used in first-class work, but good results can be obtained with veneer only. A simple method of clamping the veneer in place is shown in Figs. 57 and 60. Thin cauls of \%-in. plywood are used, together with a number of curved bearers. The general application is the same as a flat panel, both sides being veneered in one pressing.

Another example of curved work, a paneled door, is shown in Figs. 61 and 62. This features a laminated groundwork, and is one of the best methods of handling the job. Two pressings are required, one in the assembly of the groundwork and the other in the application of the veneer. Fig. 62 shows the method of working. Three or more lower bearers are band-sawed to the required curve and are held together with wood strips to make a form. The upper form is made in the same manner. Tambours, which are %-in. square sticks held loosely together with twine, are used in place of cauls. The five or more layers of single-ply %-in. poplar or basswood





FLAT

CALL

veneer for the core are glued up, glue being spread on both sides of each piece. The pieces are assembled with the grain in all pieces running the same way, and a nail is driven through the complete thickness at the center of each end. A folded piece of newspaper is placed on each side of the work to catch surplus glue, and

Solid cauls

VENEER

SHAPED 69

BEARER

TAMBOUR



over the paper is placed a sheet of %-in. single-ply veneer. Tambours are then fitted in place, followed by the forms, after which the work is ready for the veneer press, as shown in Fig. 61. After the work has dried, hardwood edgings are fitted, as shown in Fig. 54, and the panel is then ve-

Hammer

veneeting

16BRASS

Veneering around a corner: The round corner is widely used in modern furniture construction, a typical example being the bench shown below Fig. 64. The groundwork is prepared by turning and cove cutting, as shown in Figs. 63 and 64, after which the curved pieces are tenoned or doweled to flat panels. The work is then ready for veneering. In a simple method of

working, only the flat panels are veneered, as shown in the left-hand detail of Fig. 66. If the grain of the veneer runs crosswise, a very good job can be done in this way. In better work, the veneer runs right around the curve, or is jointed once at the lower edge, as indicated by the dotted line in the right-hand detail. Fig. 65 shows the veneer being fitted around the curve, and Fig. 68 shows the work in cross section. As one side only is being veneered, the corner blocks on the underside need not extend across the work, but are only of such length as to accommodate the clamps. Fig. 69 shows another method of working. In this case, both sides of the work are being veneered, the two shaped cauls extending completely across the work. A simple way of making shaped cauls of this kind is to band-saw the work in short lengths and then face the curve with a layer of 1/8-in, single-ply veneer. This breaks the joints and also levels the sawed surface. As many short lengths as are re-

> quired can be made quickly and faced in this manner, although if more than three short pieces are used to make one caul, the joints should be doweled to obtain the required stiffness.

> > A sandbag offers a simple and practical method of working. This is thumped down around the curve, as shown in Fig. 70, and is then topped with bearers and clamped.

Solid cauls: The groundwork for shaped drawer fronts and similar work is usually



made by the built-up method. If the pad is made sufficiently large, the scrap pieces obtained by band-sawing, Fig. 71, can be used as cauls when applying the veneer, as shown in Fig. 67. A layer of felt or blotting paper should be used between the cauls and veneer to equalize the pressure. The same method can be used when the groundwork is cut from solid stock.

Hammer veneering: Hammer veneering can be done on both flat and curved surfaces, and differs from veneering as previously described in that it is done with hot animal glue. The veneer hammer is not a hammer at all, but simply a block of wood or other device, as shown in Figs. 76 and 77, used to press the veneer in place. In the typical example shown in the photos, two pieces of veneer are fitted together to form a flat panel. The groundwork and veneer are first brushed with glue. It is immaterial whether or not the glue chills after application. One of the veneer pieces is then fitted in place, and it is quite likely that the glue will be tacky enough to hold it in position. After sponging the veneer with water to prevent burning, Fig. 72, the chilled glue is again made liquid by the application of a moderately warm iron, as shown in Fig. 73. The veneer is then immediately pressed in place with the hammer, Fig. 74, working with zig-zag strokes as in Fig. 75, so that all surplus glue is squeezed out. The second piece of veneer is similarly glued, allowing a 1-in. overlap. The joint is then cut with a sharp chisel or knife, using considerable pressure so that one stroke will cut through both thicknesses, Fig. 78. A light touch with the iron will then soften the glue enough so that the veneer can be peeled back to remove the waste piece, as in Fig. 79, after which the whole surface is damped and hammered,

#### Rubber Bands and Hammer Hold Cold Chisel



One mechanic assures greater safety in holding a rivet-cutting cold chisel by attaching the chisel to the end of a hammer. Large rubber bands are snapped around the chisel and hammer head.

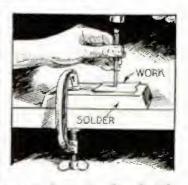
#### Large Envelopes Quickly Removed from Deep Boxes



To obtain large envelopes of different sizes quickly from deep boxes piled in tiers upon his shelves, one stationer cut a slot across the front of the inner container of each box. By simply raising up the outer cover slightly, the ends of the envelopes are exposed and can be withdrawn without pulling out the box and removing its cover. The cover of the box drops down over the slot, keeping the contents in place.

#### Bar Solder Serves as Soft Anvil for Small Work

Clamped in the vise jaws or on the bench edge, a section of ordinary bar solder will serve as a soft anvil for use with model or other small work. The metal is soft



enough to prevent any injury to the finish of the work and tough enough to offer plenty of resistance under the hammer or punch. The utility of the bar as solder is not affected in the least by being battered out of shape. Even small brass or steel punchings imbedded in it by a punch are not objectionable as they may be wiped away when the solder is melted.

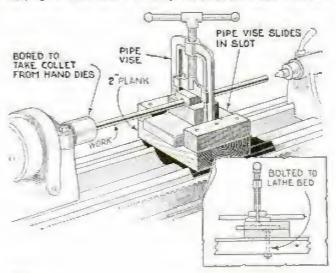
#### Device to Remove Shoe Boxes from High Shelves



Instead of the usual practice of climbing up a ladder to reach shoe boxes on high shelves, the owner of one shoe store uses a broom handle with a special attachment on the end. The attachment is shaped from heavy sheet metal to form two blades as shown. In use, one blade slips under the bottom of the box and the other slips under the edge of the lid at the end.

#### Simple Attachment Threads Pipe in Small Machine Lathe

Working in a small shop where considerable pipe threading was done and only a small machine lathe available for the job, I made this attachment to do the work in the lathe. A short length of round stock was threaded at one end to screw on the lathe shaft and the other end was bored



out to hold the collet from the handthreading dies. Then a fitting to take a pipe vise was made from wood blocks and bolted to the lathe bed. The vise was bolted to a block, which slid in a slot or track formed by the fitting on the lathe. In use, the pipe to be threaded was held in the vise and fed into the die. As the threads were cut, the pipe and vise were moved in the track toward the die, extending into the hollow lathe spindle as required.

-W. A. Pierce, Fort Ann, N. Y.

#### Worn-Out Fountain Pens Used as Test Prods

When the prods of my electrical tester became broken I made a pair from a couple of old fountain pens. The inner parts of the pens were removed and chucks from a couple of automatic pencils were

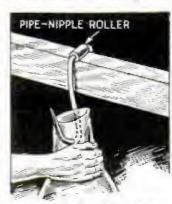


inserted into the threaded ends. Steel points were slipped into the chucks and connected to wires which entered the barrels of the pens through the openings that formerly contained the trigger mechanisms for filling them. This provided a couple of prods over which the regular pen caps could be screwed to protect the sharp ends while carrying them in my pocket.

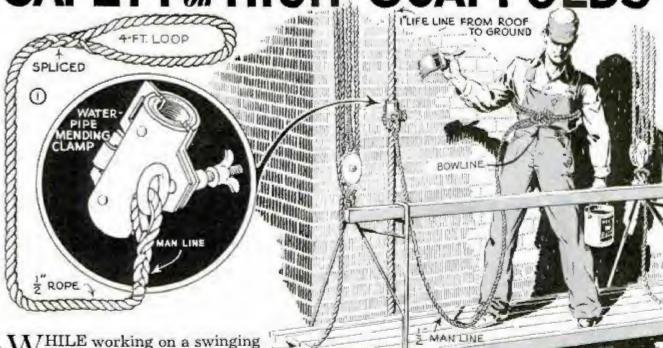
—F. J. Gillis, Fort Lee, N. J.

#### Pipe Rollers on Meat Hooks Save Labor in Butcher Shop

Butchers who are obliged to lift heavy pieces of meat to move them back and forth on the storage rack of the refrigerator will find that the job can be simplified by providing the hooks with



rollers. This may be accomplished by having the upper ends of the hooks straightened and short lengths of small pipe slipped over them, after which the hooks are bent down to their original shape. SAFETY on HIGH SCAFFOLDS



scaffold, safe practice demands the use of a life line, which is a rope tied securely to a rigid object on the roof of the building, and long enough to reach to the ground. The workman either ties the end of the line around his waist, or uses a short rope, called a man line, tied to his waist. In most cases, the weight of the life line around the waist makes its use objectionable, and the time wasted in tying and adjusting the man line is somewhat inconvenient. The clamp shown in Figs. 1 and 2 overcomes these objections. Attached to one end of the man line, it is fastened quickly to the life line and is adjusted up or down after a nut is loosened. Removing it from the life line is just a matter of unscrewing the nut. The clamp is lined inside with pieces of

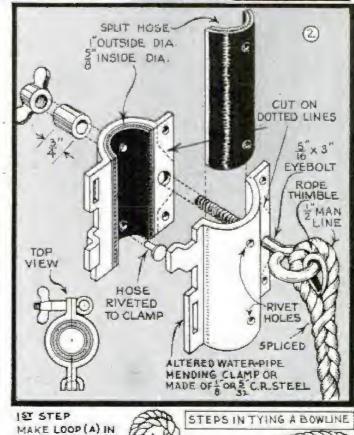
split hose to assure a positive friction

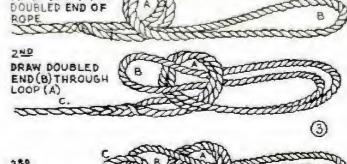
grip on the life line. Small rivets hold the lining in place. Fig. 3 shows the steps in tying a bowline knot, which is

used in attaching the man line around

the workman's waist.

Another kink in connection with safety on scaffolds is to use U-bolts instead of rope to fasten the cradle-like irons to the platform, Fig. 4. In assembling the scaffold, each iron is placed directly under a rung of the platform, after which it takes only a moment to drop the U-bolt over both the iron and rung, and turn on the nut. Notice that one leg of each U-bolt is shorter than

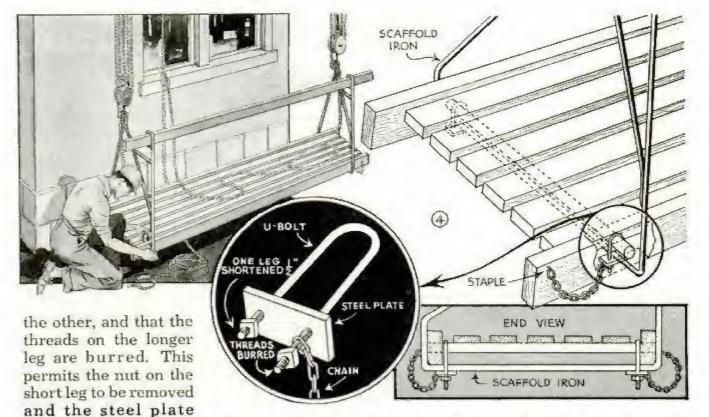




BRING PORTION(C)

OF ROPE THROUG

LOOP (B)

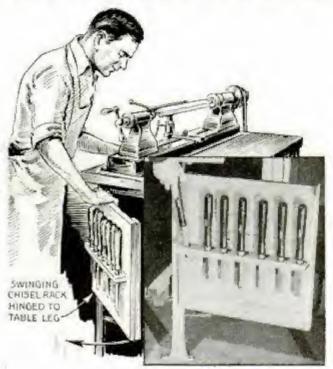


dropped off it without taking the plate entirely off the long leg of the bolt. A short chain slipped over the long leg and fastened to the platform keeps the assembly with the platform, where it is always at hand when assembling the scaffold. It is best not to draw up the nuts too tightly on the U-bolts. Leave them slightly loose.

#### Swinging Chisel Rack Is Hinged to Leg of Lathe Bench

This swinging chisel rack is particularly useful to the owner of a combination metal and woodworking lathe who does only occasional wood turning, and who doesn't want the chisels to occupy valuable wall space in back of the machine. The rack is merely a board with its front left edge

hinged to the right front leg of the lathe bench. The chisels themselves rest in slots in a shallow shelf. When the rack is swung outward, the chisels are instantly available. When the job is finished, the board is pushed back and the chisels are protected by the overhanging end of the table.



#### Slot in Worn Screw Deepened by Hammering Edges

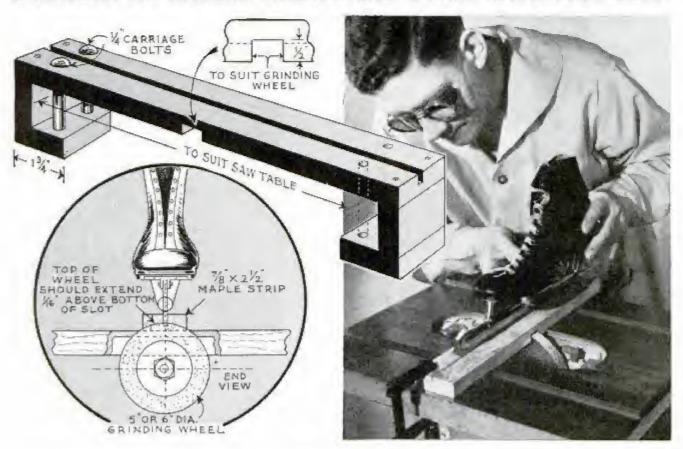
If the slot of a screw is so worn or shallow that a screwdriver will not operate in it, place the head of the screw on a metal surface and strike the slot ends with a hammer.



This will deepen the slot at the ends and often permit the screw to be driven with little trouble. The points may be driven down again afterward, if necessary.

¶Do not allow a door to drag over a rug, because it will wear it badly eventually.

#### Fixture to Grind Skates on Your Circular Saw



This inexpensive fixture to fit on the table of a circular saw will enable you to grind a pair of skates accurately in a fraction of the time usually required. After substituting a grinding wheel for the saw blade, a strip of hardwood is slotted lengthwise to take the skate blade and crosswise to take the grinding wheel. The strip can be made as shown in the upper detail to slip over the edges of the saw table, or it can be clamped in place. In either case, be sure that the strip is located so that the centerline of the skate slot coincides with the centerline of the grinding wheel. The skate blade is placed in the slot and pushed over the wheel, which is adjusted to extend 1/16 in. above the bottom of the slot.

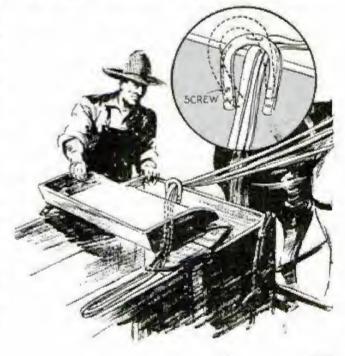
-Hugh Humphreys, Cincinnati, Ohio.

#### Pivoted Horseshoe on Front of Wagon Box Holds the Lines

A heavy horseshoe, pivoted onto the front of a farm wagon box, may be swung over to the position shown to hold the driving lines so that they will not fall under the horses' feet when left unattended. A pull on the free ends of the lines will swing the horseshoe back out of the way when it is not needed.

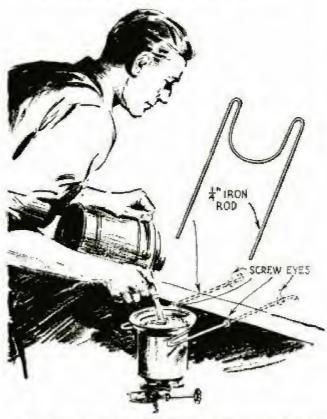
#### Adhesive for Transformers

In winding coils and transformers where an insulating paper is put between layers of wire, a good adhesive to hold the paper in place is made by melting together equal parts of rosin and beeswax. This is applied with a small brush. It hardens quickly and saves time in winding transformers having a number of layers.



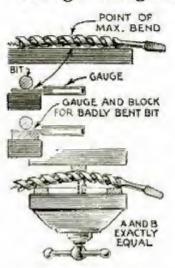
DECEMBER, 1940

#### Sliding Clamp under Workbench Holds Blowtorch to Fill It



To hold his blowtorch safely inverted for filling with gasoline, one workman bent a length of ¼-in, iron rod as indicated, and attached it to the underside of his bench. Screw eyes were used for this so that it could be pulled out to hold the torch, or pushed in out of the way when not in use.

#### Straightening a Bent Auger Bit



If an auger bit is bent you can straighten it as follows: Place the bit on a perfectly flat surface and roll it until the point of greatest bend clears the table a maximum distance. Carefully measure this distance, using a thickness gauge, or, if the bit is ex-

tremely out of line, the gauge and a flat piece of metal of known thickness. Make two pieces of metal or hardwood having thicknesses exactly equal to the clearance distance, and fasten them to the ends of a hardwood block which is thick enough to resist bending when placed in the vise. Place the bit on this jig with the ends of the spiral contacting the raised end pieces. Put the assembly in the vise and, using a small block between the jaw and the point of greatest bend in the bit, turn the screw until the bit touches the surface of the jig body. This bends the bit an equal amount in a direction opposite the original bend. When released the tool usually will spring back to perfect alignment.

#### Dab of Grease Is Substitute for Lost Ink-Tube Cap

When the cap of an ink tube is mis-laid, workmen in a printing shop seal the contents by placing a dab of hard grease over the opening. The grease is wiped off when the ink is to be used again.

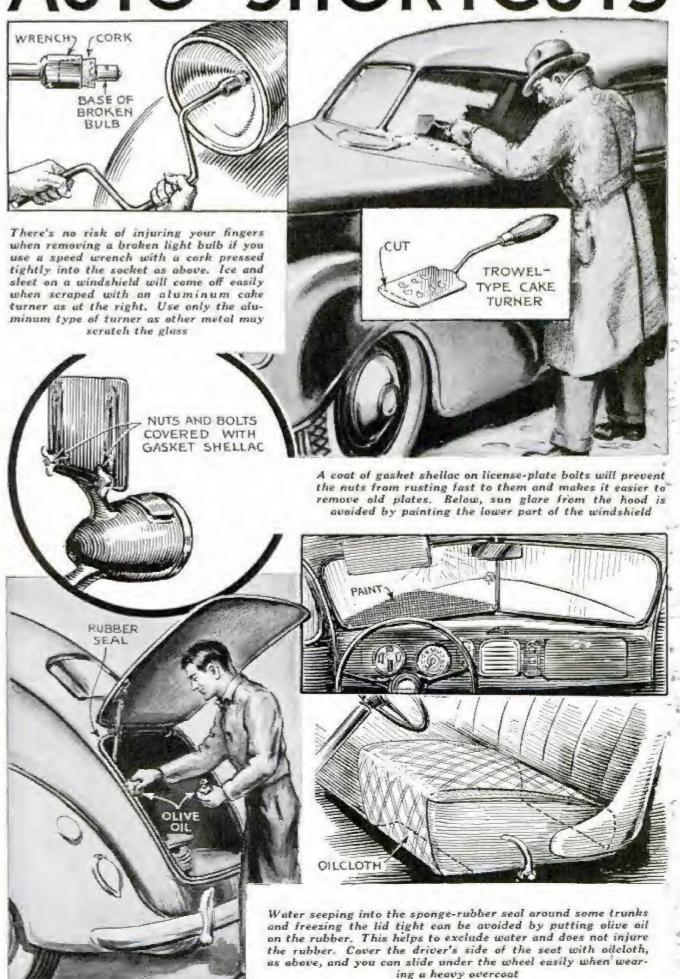


#### Short Rope Permits Easy Closing of Barn Door

The difficulty of pulling the top section of a barn door shut from the inside may be overcome by attaching a short length of rope to the door and frame by means of screw eyes. When the door is opened the rope is taut and out of the way, but may be reached easily and pulled down to close the door with little effort.



## AUTO SHORTCUTS



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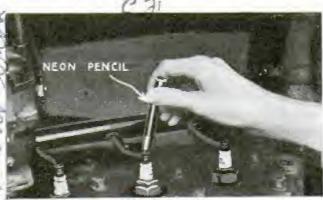
#### Garage Creeper Used as Truck to Haul Small Loads



A mechanic in one garage converts his creeper into a small hand truck by simply adding pipe stakes at each corner. The stakes are held by floor flanges screwed to the creeper, and are removed or put in place quickly.

#### Checking Motor for Trouble with Neon Pencil

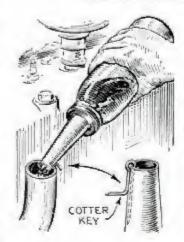
A neon pencil enables anyone to determine some causes of motor trouble easily. The pencil contains a tiny neon tube that glows a brilliant red when touched to a spark-plug terminal, if the motor is firing properly. Trouble is indicated by the change in the color of the spark within the tube, or by its absence. With the motor idling, this spark should occur about 100 times per minute, or a trifle faster than it is possible to count. If the spark is irregular or is absent, the cylinder is misfiring. The actual cause of the "miss" is determined by a simple series of tests. First remove the wire from the plug and test its



end with the pencil. If the spark occurs regularly, the timer points, the wire and the distributor may be eliminated as the cause of the trouble. An irregular spark is an indication that the plug is at fault and a new one should be installed. If the new plug fails to remedy the trouble, note carefully the color of the neon spark. A dark, spark alternating with a brilliant red one indicates loss of compression within the cylinder, or a faulty adjustment of the carburetor. If adjusting the carburetor does not stop the trouble, the piston rings or the valves are at fault. A poor condenser is shown at any plug by an almost continuous string of thin sparks instead of the normal red one. The sparks are irregular and entirely out of time with the motor.

-A. H. Vance, Linn Creek, Mo.

#### Bent Cotter Key Provides Stop on Oil-Bottle Spout

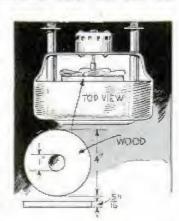


To prevent the spout of an oil bottle from slipping and spilling oil over the motor when filling the crankcase, use a cotter key as shown. One leg of the key is slipped over the end of the spout to serve as a stop or rest.

#### Proper Setting of Heater Fan Determined by a Gauge

Many manufacturers of hot-water heaters for autos recommend that the fan be

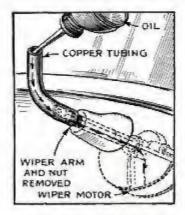
located on the motor shaft so that the blades will clear the radiator fins from ¼ to ¾ in. To assure accurate settings at the first trial, one mechanic made a wooden gauge having a central hole to clear the end of the shaft.



This gauge is laid on the radiator fins and the fan, clamped loosely to the shaft, is set in place. The gauge, contacting the blades, forces the fan up the shaft to the proper distance. Tightening the set screw holds it there permanently. The motor and fan are then lifted and the gauge removed.

-W. C. Wilhite, Carlinville, Ill.

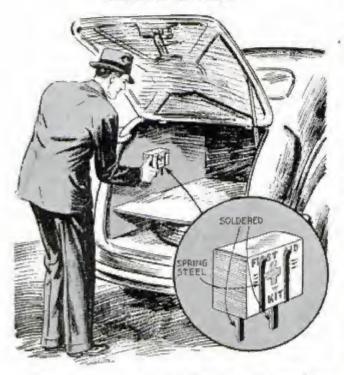
#### Motors of Windshield Wipers Oiled Through Shaft



I solved the problem of oiling the vacuum windshield motor by putting the oil in at the shaft that carried the blade. This saved the trouble of removing the motor, which was quite a job. Instead of

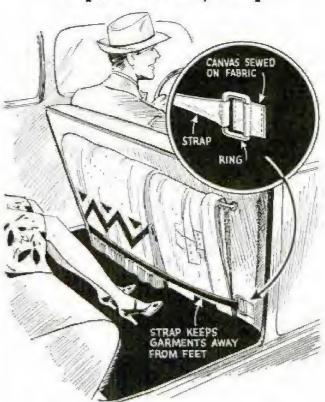
taking the time to let the oil run down the shaft a drop at a time, I fitted a copper tube over the end of the shaft, filled it with oil and started the car motor to help suck in the oil.—G. L. Lupton, San Antonio, Tex.

#### First-Aid Kit Always at Hand in Car Trunk



One motorist who did a lot of traveling carried a small first-aid kit in the trunk of his car. Two spring-steel brackets soldered inside the trunk held the kit out of the way, yet permitted it to be reached easily when needed. On some cars the lining will have to be cut to fit the brackets.

#### Garments on Coat Rail of Auto Kept in Place by Strap



When garments are hung on the coat rail on the back of the front seat, the tilt of the seat brings them in just the position where the passengers in the back seat rub their feet on them. To avoid this, put a strap on the back of the front seat as indicated. The strap will keep the garments close to the back of the seat.

#### Plugging Crack in Motor Block

Cracks at the edge of a valve seat of a motor block are frequently repaired by threading a small bar of special metal and screwing sections of it into a series of holes tapped into the crack. First, a plug is tapped into the hole at the edge of the crack, then each succeeding plug back of it is made to crowd the last one. Finally, the plugs are trimmed with a chisel, peened and ground off.



#### Trunk Tray to Handle Packages Several at a Time



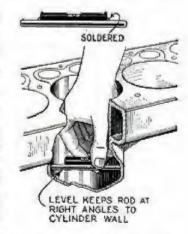
Salesmen and others who have to carry a number of small, light packages in the trunks of their cars and remove them frequently, will find a tray similar to the one shown handy. It permits the entire assembly of packages to be removed together and carried about as a unit. The tray can be partitioned as desired, and can be reinforced at the corners with metal angle brackets if necessary.

-Opie Read, Jr., Chicago.

#### Level Assures Right Measurement of Auto-Motor Cylinder

An improvement on the often-used rod method of calipering the inside diameter

of a motor cylinder, is to fit it with a small level. The level shows when the rod is held at exactly right angles to the cylinder walls. This is necessary if the measurement is to be correct, as any deviation from a right angle would indicate a diam-



eter greater than the actual one of the cylinder. The level can be spot-soldered to the rod to keep it in place.

#### WHAT to MAKE for Christmas

You can make your own gifts easily if you have this 188-page, 1941 edition of "What-To-Make"—filled with projects of interest to home craftsmen



#### 168 THINGS TO BUILD

This unusual book contains shop-tested projects and it tells you not only what to make, but how to make it—things you have wanted for your home and garden, furniture, novelties for gifts and toys, and games for the children.

#### MORE THAN 500 PICTURES

You see exactly how everything is done because over half of this book is made up of pictures. Drawings and illustrations show every step in construction and also the completed project. You do not have to be an expert and your success will amaze your family and friends.

#### PARTIAL LIST OF CONTENTS

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THE ARMCHAIR above is his cockpit—but Bill Miller flies as many as 100 planes a day. North, south, east, and west from New York's LaGuardia Field (air view right) his radio control-room directs the flying course of American's giant flagships.

Flier, navigator, engineer, traffic executive all in one-yes, flight superintendent Bill Miller is a man with the extras—a man who gets the smoking extras, too...in Camels.

For Camel's costlier tobaccos and slower way of burning give you more than mildness—they give you extra mildness and coolness with a flavor that holds its appeal right through the last extra puff. Camels also give you extra smoking per pack (see right).

**GET THE "EXTRAS"—WITH SLOWER-BURNING** 

## CAMELS\_

THE CIGARETTE OF

# HIS EXTRA YOU EVERY MILE!

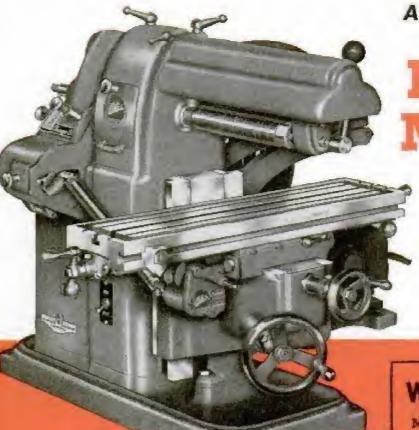
WILLIAM H. MILLER-Flight Supt., American Airlines



DECEMBER, 1940

# NEWS FOR YOU

NOW-FOR THE FIRST TIME



A POPULAR PRICED PRECISION

MILLING MACHINE

\$17500

AND UP COMPLETE LESS MOTOR

Illustrated is Model MF with Change-O-Matic Feeds

Simply turning a knob gives you choice of four table feeds.

#### IT'S the biggest news of the season!

For the first time in machine tool history you can buy a compact precision bench Milling Machine as low as \$175! Atlas modern engineers have made an outstanding contribution to the metal working field in developing this remarkable miller for you.

Here are a few facts about it. Table working surface is  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x 18", longitudinal travel 12" (manual) or 10" (with "Change-O-Matic" feed), cross travel  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ", vertical travel 6", Timken tapered roller bearings give you 12 spindle speeds between 54 and 3225 RPM. Overall dimensions  $25\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $32\frac{1}{2}$ " x 22" high. Operates from 1/3 HP 1740 RPM motor.

These are just the highlights. For full details see your Atlas dealer and send the coupon to reserve your 1941 Atlas Catalog.

#### What It Will Do For You

Modelmakers, inventors, experimental shops, and all types of metal working shops will find many uses for this rugged, accurate, efficient machine.

Die making, metal pattern work, gear cutting, end, form, and straddle milling, slabbing and facing, keyways, slotting, grooving, dovetalling, profiling, indexing, boring, slitting, layout work, finishing—all can be handled to perfection with the Allas, See the 1941 Atlas Catalog for complete information.



# FROM atlas!

### Joins These Other Well Known atlas Machines

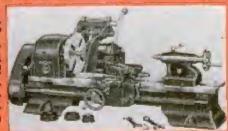


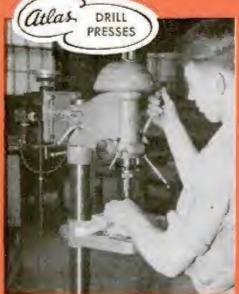
Industrial tool rooms, metal working shops, and workshop owners throughout the world praise the versatile operating features, accuracy, and sensible low prices of Atlas Lathes.

F-Series models have full 10" swing, Power Cross Feed, V-belt drive, precision-ground bed, custom-bored bearings, backgeared power, wide screw-cutting range, 16 speeds. These are but a few of the many modern Atlas features. Priced as low as \$99.75 less motor.

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Give you all the accuracy and dependability of the larger lathes. 12" or 18" between centers-\$61.50 or \$64.50 less motor.





One of the Atlas "marvels" is this new metal shaper. All the precision and power of larger machines has been built down to scale for work within a 7" stroke, 4 speeds, 5 automatic cross feeds. \$245 less

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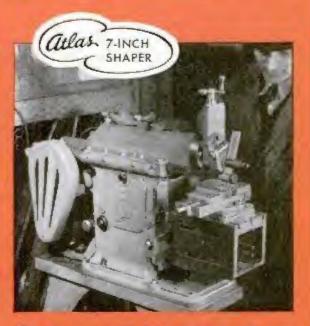


For smoothness and long accurate service buy an Atlas Drill Press with floating drive spindle design and SKF ball bearings. 4 sizes, 4 prices from \$17.25 to \$44.75 less motor.

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DECEMBER, 1940 117A

### America Goes Calling

(Continued from page 885)

The radio staff engaged in this work is made up of men and women who have lived a total of 325 years in foreign countries. At the outset we realized this was a job calling for men who spoke foreign languages with the accents and idioms of the man in the street. It called for men who knew the customs, habits, and preferences of their listeners. They had to feel, act, and think like foreigners, yet be imbued with a love for America, its government and ideals. The men in the international department can speak, read or write fourteen languages fluently. Even the office boy speaks two languages. They have spent an average of eighteen years each in foreign lands, yet are predominantly American. Eleven are natives, three naturalized Americans, one is a Swiss, one a Chilean, two others, Argentinean and Brazilian.

Music, being the universal language, ranks next to news in popularity. When these daily hour shows were being formulated we consulted with officials in Washington as to whether jazz should be included in the program for Latin America along with classical music. Most of them advised against it but soon we began receiving requests from swing fans south of the border demanding we devote a part of the time to classics in iive.

Miscellaneous talks on American life and industry, sports, aviation, travel, photography, Hollywood, and philately are welcome also. Program-makers have found it politic to weave special shows in honor of foreign holidays. When Toscanini plays for audiences in America an electrical transcription of the concert is made to be used the day following for European and South American broadcasts.

A high spot of international broadcasting was the commercially sponsored blow-by-blow description of the Louis-Godoy fight. A Spanish-speaking sports announcer described the battle at ringside where it was sent by short wave to South America and picked up by some 130 stations of that country. More than 20,000 letters were received from listeners.

The stream of technical improvements in this field has been unending and the present quality of reception compares favorably with conventional broadcasting. Naturally, though, the short wave encounters more trouble than the long wave because it has farther to go and has more geological and atmospheric hurdles to surmount.

Sunspots have given engineers plenty to worry about as they perturb the ionosphere, causing the radio waves to be cast back to earth where they are picked up by the receivers, thus affecting reception of foreign listeners. They now can be predicted with some mathematical precision. They become active, it appears, in twentyseven-day cycles and engineers are learning ways to minimize their interference. The short-wave broadcasters have four frequencies on which they can operate, but even with this choice, terrific sunspot blasts on the ionosphere cause complete fadeouts sometimes. Then too, violent magnetic storms frequently follow sunspot activity and this adds up to more interference.

The mention of interference brings up the subject of the deliberate, man-made style about which there's been so much comment. Engineers smile at the legend of wholesale "jamming" of short-wave broadcasts by authoritarian stations. Interference occurs, and frequently, but the dictatorships suffer from it nearly as much as the democracies. Usually it is due to the fact there are more stations than good frequencies.

In international calls, the most advanced type of antenna in the world is used. It's the steerable beam, which, by pressing a button, can be directed either toward eastern (Portuguese-speaking) or western (Spanish-speaking) South America. Power gain is effectively increased twenty-two times that of the non-directional antenna. The steerable beam is used by WRCA on 9,670 kilocycles. The other frequency on this 25,000-watt station is 21,630. The companion station, also 25,000 watts, is WNBI operating on two channels, 17,780 and 6,100 kilocycles.

In truth, short-wave broadcasting, apart from the entertainment and informative values, is helping further the unity of the two Americas. And, in a world in which radio is largely used to arouse man against man, it's heartening to feel this powerful weapon is being employed with success to further the cause of democracy and "good will toward men."





MY CAR HAD THE HTTERS. The motor missed, backfired and bucked It had no power on the hills. bronco. It had no power on the fifts, couldn't figure what was wrong until



A SERVICE MAN PUT ME HEP to Auto-Lite Spark Plugs. "They'll give your car new life," he said. "Those old plugs now waste plenty of gas, that costs you money.



RUNS SMOOTH AS SILK NOW! My motor purrs like a kitten. And say, I've sure cut my gas hills since I put those new Anto-Lite Spark Phys to work for me.

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7OU'LL be amazed at the differ-Y ence in the performance of your car when you replace old, gas-wasting spark plugs with sensational new Auto-Lites! Lazy motors suddenly take on new pep. gain lively pickup and smooth, responsive power. Gas wastes are eliminated,

Auto-Lite Spark Plugs deliver an amazing Mystery Spark that steps up the efficiency of the entire ignition system. To harness this

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Ignition Engineered by Ignition Engineers

# D-LITE SPARK PLUG

### More Work for Infra-Red

(Continued from page 895)

tions, contusions and burns, healing after operations, application of heat to produce muscle relaxation of injured legs and arms, and treatment after compound fracture with radial nerve injury. Local applications, that is, to the injured member directly, of heat is regarded as one of the most valuable forms of therapy at the physician's command.

Photography ample

Photography employing infra-red extends the vision of the camera far beyond the limits of the human eye, affording a new photographic and pictorial dimension as well as a medium for making valuable record and technical photographs that would be impossible otherwise. Anyone owning a camera may take interesting and unusual infra-red pictures. Film is available for every type of amateur camera and the only other equipment needed is an A-filter, which if purchased as an unmounted gelatin filter costs but a few cents.

The value of infra-red photography lies in the fact that infra-red radiation and light often are reflected and transmitted quite differently by common objects. The chlorophyl in green foliage absorbs a large percentage of the visible radiation which falls upon it but does not absorb the invisible infra-red, which is reflected almost entirely by the leaf structure and therefore is recorded by means of infra-red sensitive plates and films. Many dyes which are brightly colored to the eye do not absorb infra-red and therefore record as white. The skin is somewhat transparent to infrared radiation and therefore infra-red photography sometimes is of value in medicine in diagnosing abnormal conditions immediately beneath the surface. Infra-red photography has been used successfully in criminology, photomicrography, botany, paleontology and other scientific fields.

Infra-red landscape photographs usually result in pictures in which the sky is almost black, clouds and snow are white, shadows are quite dense and lack detail, grasses and leaves appear very light as if covered by snow, and distant details are rendered with remarkable clarity. Evergreen foliage, however, appears black because evergreens reflect no appreciable amount of infra-red light. Photos taken by infra-red outdoors in sunlight and then printed slightly darker than normal have

a quality suggesting they were taken by moonlight. One outstanding thing about this form of photography is the penetration of atmospheric haze by the camera. Objects invisible to the eye may be photographed sharply and clearly on infra-red sensitive films or plates. Some remarkable photos of cities and mountains at distances of fifty and more miles have been produced.

Since infra-red radiation is invisible, infra-red photographs can be made readily in total darkness. However, there must be some form of radiation, such as tungsten or photofloods screened with filters which absorb all visible light but transmit freely the infra-red rays to which the photographic material is sensitive. Photos of hot bodies, such as a flatiron or soldering iron, may be made by using the invisible infra-red emitted by the object. This type of photography is valuable in studying the temperature distribution of hot bodies which are just below red heat, such as cooling ingots and castings, stoves, engine parts, high-pressure boilers and the like.

Infra-red, coupled with the camera, has many applications in the war on crime, such as detection and deciphering of erasures and forgeries, detection of stains and irregularities in cloth, detection of certain kinds of secret writing, deciphering of charred documents, study of fingerprints, examination of the contents of sealed envelopes, and others. In the field of examinations of documents, infra-red forms a valuable adjunct to ultraviolet photography, helping to reveal overwriting, obliteration by application of ink, invisible inks, deliberate chemical bleaching and mechanical erasures. Inks, pigments and other materials which appear identical to the human eye frequently appear quite differently in an infra-red photograph.

The physician finds infra-red photography an invaluable aid to diagnosis, since it is possible to make pictures showing the superficial veins, some of which are not revealed by ordinary photographs. Infrared photos of the iris of the eye reveal details which escape in conventional pictures.

In plant pathology, infra-red has provided a means of studying and diagnosing plant diseases in which there is change in pigment or cellular material. Different

(Continued to page 122A)

# WITH SIGHTLESS EYES I GUIDED IO TONS OF DESTRUCTION!

A true experience of JOHN FENIMORE, St. Louis, Missouri



"THE RAIN WAS COMING DOWN in buckets as I took my heavy transport truck down a long hill," writes Mr. Fenimore. "Suddenly I thought the end of the world had come. Lightning had blasted the road a few feet ahead of my truck!

"THE BOLT BLINDED ME, but somehow I managed to bring that 10 ton truck to a stop. I groped in the darkness for my flashlight, then stood by the truck and flashed an appeal for help.





"I WAS PICKED UP, and rushed to a hospital, where prompt medical attention saved my eyesight. I hat I enjoy the blessing of normal vision today is due to 'Eveready' fresh DA TED batteries. You can bet I'm never going to be without them!

The word "Eveready" is an registered trade-mark of National Carbon Co., Inc.



FRESH BATT ERIES LAST LONGER ... Look for the DATE-LINE

NATIONAL CAR SON COMPANY, INC., 30 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

... Unit of Union Carbide Use and Carbon Corporation

kinds of wood show marked variation in schemical solution, has been developed reof irregularities in dyeing and weaving of invisible infra-red light through them. cloth and damage to fibers. Infra-red sensitive plates have found use in differenti- highly complex molecules of organic chemating between light and dark blues, in - icals, that is, those containing carbon, promulticolor printing and in preparing the duce characteristic "fingerprints" or patnegative of the black printing plate from terns when the infra-red rays are spread originals prepared in specially selected out into a spectrum. Glass cannot be used colors. In the field of technology, other to do this, because it is opaque to the rays. applications are the study of interiors of furnaces while they are operating, detec- the radiation into its various wave lengths. tion of carbons in lubricating oils and the study of the porosity of tin plate.

Hundreds of new lines have been recorded in the spectra of the elements and much has been learned of the composition of the stars and of the atmospheres of the planets with the aid of infra-red photography. Photos, made through the haze of nebulae, show to startled astronomers the stars normally invisible beyond. And large numbers of new stars have been discovered by the infra-red radiation which they emit.

Much use has been made of infra-red in photomicrography, revealing details of internal structure of deeply pigmented tissues and the thicker microscopic sections and specimens which are not visible in or-

dinary photomicrographs.

Authenticity of paints-the old masters, for instance-may be determined by means of infra-red photography, employed with chemical study, X-ray and ultraviolet photography. Pigments vary in the way they transmit and reflect the infra-red, though they may appear identical in color. Thus may be detected the presence of overpainting and other alterations, as well as distinguishing between an original painting and a later copy. Important factors are the varnish and medium, which differ in their infra-red transparency according to their nature and age. Paintings which have so deteriorated, due to darkening of varnish, that detail can be seen with difficulty, may be revealed by this means. Photographs, engravings, maps, drawings and other documents which have become faded with age or badly discolored are being photographed successfully with infra-red.

A method of analysis employing fingerprints of molecules, which is so delicate Said. When a tire goes that it can detect an impurity of a thousandth of one per cent in a few drops of

their transparency to the infra-red. In the cently. Furthermore, even those few drops textile industry, infra-red photography can be returned unchanged after the test, has been applied successfully to detection of for it consists merely in passing beams of

> The method depends on the fact that A prism of rock salt, however, separates

> If our eyes could see infra-red rays, we should view a spectrum, crossed by dark lines where certain wave lengths are absorbed by the molecules. Since the rays are invisible, and unable to affect even a photographic plate, they are detected with a thermopile, which measures their heating effect. This can detect a temperature rise of a hundred-millionth of a degree.

> The analysis method consists in plotting the pattern made by the absorption bands, and comparing this with the pattern for known organic substances. When the two match, just as when two fingerprints match, it is known that the same individ-

dual produced them.

Dolly Cradles the Flat Tire to Nearest Service Statio



Handy as an "ambulance a small three-wheel true The car to a garage or s rolled onto the low above ground while di

POPUL! Latore



### A mechanic is known by the tools he uses

Would you be proud, or embarrassed, to show a prospective employer your private workshop or work-bench — where you "experiment," build models, "gadgets," practical devices, keep household equipment in repair . . . where you add to your mechanical training toward greater earnings? • Begin with your files. Are they cheap, little-known brands? Are they battered and worn? Nicholson and Black Diamond Files are the pride of skilled mechanics. Their superior performance far outweighs their small extra cost. • Nicholson — largest file manufacturer in the world — makes more than 3000 kinds, sizes and cuts of files, including many special-purpose files—such as Die-makers, Aluminum, Diecast, Brass, Foundry, Long Angle Lathe, and Stainless Steel. Good hardware and mill-supply dealers carry a practical variety.



THESE

USEFUL®



are now being widely featured by hardware dealers. Left—SLIM TAPER SAW FILES (triangular) for hand-saw sharpening and many other uses. Above—HANDY FILE—two files in one! Single-cut on one side; double-cut on the other—for both smooth and rough filing jobs. Rounded flat hang-up handle. Files Cellophane-wrapped. Both these items obtainable in either Nicholson or Black Diamond brand.

# NICHOLSON

FILES FOR EVERY PURPOSE



NICHOLSON FILE CO. 22 Acorn St., Providence, R	· I.
Send free book, "A File	
Name	



NEW BRITAIN, CONN., U. S. A.

Flying Cowboys
(Continued from page 853)

ground. These days the horse has learned to ride in a truck or trailer. Carrying his horse to work enables the cowboy to sleep at the "home ranch" most nights instead of camping out, and a man and horse now cover much more country than they once did. Horses work just as many hours as always but many of them have ridden far greater distances on four wheels than they have traveled on their own feet.

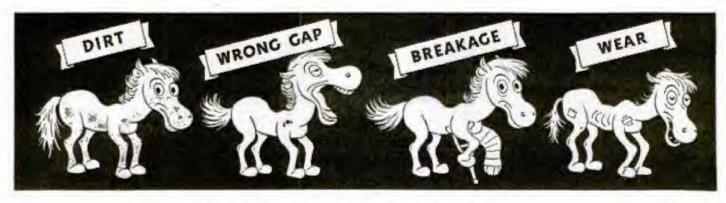
Except during storms, cattle rarely stray from their ranges now because of the cowboy invention known as the mechanical water hole. Previously cattle depended on natural springs and water holes for water but these days a ranch owner drills a series of wells in a circle around his range. A windmill at each well draws the water and stores it in a large steel tank, adjoining which are pools or troughs. A float lever in the pool replenishes the water when it is low and shuts off the flow from the storage tank when the pool is full again. Each water hole runs automatically for months on end without attention. At seasons when there is little wind one of the cowboys tows a power jack from well to well, pumping enough water from each to refill its storage tank. When a herd exhausts the feed in the vicinity of one water hole it makes its way to the next, moving in a circle around the ranch.

Most of the great cattle ranches have been broken up and even the few that still run to hundreds of thousands of acres are now mainly under fence. The C-Bar-G, running 2,000 head of cattle on forty square miles of summer range and another forty square miles of winter range, is an average-sized cattle ranch today.

The big-time roundup came to an end when the fence arrived and removed the need for each owner to sort his own brand from the common herd. Each cattle ranch holds its own series of roundups now, one in the spring for branding spring calves, again in the fall for branding fall calves, and one in the summer for cutting out the beef cattle that are to be sent to market or to special feed lots. All animals are dehorned except the cows, whose horns are left on so that they can protect their young.

"Treat 'em gentle" are standing orders

(Continued to page 126A)



# ONLY FOUR THINGS CAN HAPPEN TO ANY SPARK PLUG and AC has the Cure for them all

#### DIRT

The most common cause of spark plug trouble. If the deposit is black, it's carbon or soot. If it's red, white,





fused, or blistered, it's oxide,

—a residue of combustion.

#### The Cure

is a thorough cleaning (5c a plug) in the special machine developed by AC engineers. You will find this machine in service at more than 70,000 Registered AC Cleaning Stations. There's one near you, (Cleaning and regapping are needed every 4,000 miles.)

#### WRONG GAP

Wear causes this condition. Sometimes, gaps widen too





quickly. This indicates that the plug in use cools too slowly, or is of the wrong type.

#### The Cure

For normal wear—gap adjustment with the special AC tools used by Registered AC Cleaning Stations. Accuracy is assured by the special round wire gauge, which correctly measures concave gaps. The cure for abnormal wear is a new plug of correct type and temperature range. Better make it an AC.

#### BREAKAGE

Breakage of the upper insulator is always the result of a blow, as when a wrench slips. A broken lower insulator results from an attempt to adjust the gap by bending the center wire; or from use of a plug which cools too slowly, or is of the wrong type.

The Cure is a new plug.



For More Than 31 Years The Quality Spark Plug

Standard equipment on America's finest cars, trucks, buses, tractors, and engines, AC's assure you of best engine performance.

#### WEAR

It is reasonable to expect about 10,000 miles of economical service from any standard make of plug.





The Cure

A new plug, or a set of new plugs. You'll be sure of full satisfaction if those new plugs are AC Quality Spark Plugs.





Replace worn plugs with New AC's for Better Performance

all through the West and cowhands might lose their jobs for hazing animals or treating them roughly. Rough treatment is apt to scare or injure an animal and an unhappy cow or steer loses weight, reducing its market value. When cattle are being moved from one range to another they are transported carefully in trucks if the distance is great or at a slow walk if the distance is short. Baby calves tend to get foot-sore and if this happens each calf is picked up and roped to a saddle in front of a rider.

Grown animals are worth too much money to risk injury by roping and throwing when they are to be dehorned or given other treatment. Instead each is driven into a narrow chute at the end of which is a "squeeze cage," the sides of which are drawn together to imprison the animal and prevent it from struggling. An iron bar is lowered down to secure its head, after which it may be dehorned, vaccinated, or branded without any chance of injury and in a fraction of the time that used to be required.

The cattle business is becoming specialized. Many great ranges are used only for calves that are growing to yearling size, after which the calves are shipped to I "feeder" pastures where by means of concentrated foods, as well as the fresh grass, they gain an extra year's weight in a shorttime. In the feeder pens and pastures, cattle may be fed fish meal, molasses, Manihot meal that is a by-product of tapioca, cottonseed meal, and such other by-products of agriculture as pineapple pulp and orange meal. Prunes, grapes, cantaloupes and watermelons are fed the cattle when surplus crops are available. Such diets are balanced scientifically to do the cattle the most good.

Fencing eliminated the old range wars but it has had little effect on cattle rustling. Stock thieves are still as great a menace as ever. They no longer drive large herds up into the hills and on to distant markets, because such wholesale methods are too easy to discover. On the other hand, meat animals are worth much more today than in the past. The rustlers steal young unbranded animals, rework the brands of others and slaughter animals on the open range. Their equipment is a rifle with silencer attached and a car and trailer. A big steer butchered may bring them \$75 or

\$80 from an unscrupulous meat market. Brand inspectors and stock detectives are always busy.

Today the cowboy still wears his traditional costume because each item of his apparel has been tried and tested in service and fits his work. Even the characteristic vest has its use as a carrying place for tobacco which would be hard to reach and probably crushed if he carried it in his pants pocket while in the saddle. The cowhand is still a rough-riding buckaroo on his days off and his favorite sports are those of the rodeo, competing against his companions in riding wild horses and wrestling with steers. Boys who are growing up on the range first ride calves and then older cattle, unsaddled, to learn of balance before they tackle horses. Part of their horsemanship is to ride bucking animals bareback for the training it gives them.

Cowpunchers don't make much money and most of them earn less than \$75 per month. Room, board and horses are furnished by the ranch owner. Many smart oswboys make a deal with their employers and instead of drawing all their pay as it is due they take it out in young cattle, assembling the nucleus of a small herd so that after a few years each can go into the cattle business himself.

Memo Sheets Fed One at a Time from "Fough-Control" Case



Memorandum paper is kept on a desk, without sacrificing neatness, in a tidy holder that feeds one sheet at a time with a touch of the hand. Filled, it contains 230 three-by-five-inch slips of paper. Above the sheets and near the front of the case is a roller that when it is revolved picks up and delivers a sheet.



Look at that towering Erector parachute jump, with electrically illuminated top. You build it yourself. Piece by piece you fit the long gleaming girders together—attach the parachute rigging—and install the powerful Erector reversing electric engine. . . . And now for thrilling action! Blow your whistle . . . throw your engine into gear and your parachutes are hoisted up and up until they strike the release mechanism. Then, like a flash, they plummet downward—unfold—and lazily float to the ground.

Now get a load of that mighty Ferris wheel. It whistles—twinkles with light—operates in either direction at slow or high speed. You can build hundreds of spectacular, realistic mechanical marvels with one Erector set. And how the Erector electric engine makes them buzz with action! See the new Erectors at your nearest toy store. Take Dad along.

A. C. Gilbert, Founder of the Gilbert Hall of Science, the home of Erector, American Flyer Trains, Gilbert Chemistry Sets, Gilbert Microscopes and other Gilbert Scientific Toys. ● All-Electric No. 8½ Erector — Crammed with exciting electric features. Whistle. 110 Volt reversing electric engine, with automobile-type gear shift. Electric lights. Electro-magnet so powerful it grabs up steel girders before it touches them. Contains total of 15

pounds of upto-the-minute parts for building bascule bridge, giant Ferris wheel. magnetic crane, oil drilling rig and many other colossal, whistling, engine driven, electrically lighted engineering marvels. Builds over 100 models. Price \$12.95. Other Erector Sets from \$1.00.



# The COLOSSAL ALL-ELECTRIC ERECTOR



#### Big 24-page illustrated book "It's Fun to Be a Boy Engineer"—

Boys, getting this book is as exciting as going to the movies. Over 100 illustrations. Mail coupon or post card. The A. C. Gilbert Co., 605 Erector Square, New Haven, Conn.

Rush big book. (Offer good only in U.S. A. and Canada.)

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### Switching on the Rainbow

(Continued from Coloroto Section)

coated with "phosphors," or fluorescent powder, energized by short-wave ultraviolet produced by a low-pressure mercury vapor discharge between preheated electrodes at each end of the tube. The colors available at present are green, pink, blue, daylight and white—all produced directly by the powder inside the tube. In addition, red and gold lights are obtained by the use of red and gold filters in the form of a spray applied directly to the glass tube.

Efficiency of the fluorescent lamps is revealed by comparing a thirty-watt, thirty-six-inch lamp with a 200-watt incandescent lamp equipped with filters for producing the same color. The green fluorescent produces seventy-five lumens (units of light) per watt; the 200-watt incandescent with filter, only four lumens per watt.

Investigation by lighting engineers has shown that men prefer the warm colors of light, the reds, yellows and ambers, for instance, and women like the "cold" colors, blue, green and bluish-white. Yellow and amber tinted light is definitely stimulating and has been known to increase the pulse rate of the more emotional types of people. Bluish-white and other cool colors of light are restful and soothing, provided the color is not too strong. Purple and violet light, the home owner experimenting with color illumination will need to remember, may be depressing and uncomfortable to a marked degree, if used alone.

Generally, men and women do not like bold, vivid colors in lighting. They do like, however, tinted light—a fact the hostess of tomorrow may use to her advantage.

Among innovations which the homemaker may wish to try, Miss Myrtle Fahsbender, home-lighting director for Westinghouse suggests, is built-in lighting, such as fluorescent or incandescent installations in ledges that may not be integral parts of the house. Built-in lighting can be made in portable sections like a sectional bookcase and moved about to conform to the limitations of a small or large room. The frame might be wood with a channel twelve inches deep and lamps concealed by a strip of flashed opal glass—crystal glass with a thin coating of opal—which provides excellent diffusion with a high transmission of light.

Cove lighting, which Miss Fahsbender also mentions, is a system of indirect lighting consisting of a trough in which lamps are recessed and concealed by a molding of wood, metal or glass. It may be continuous around a room or balanced at opposite ends of a room, or placed over windows and doors. Tubular-type lamps, in white or color, should be used to avoid spotty lighting, since the tubes may be placed end to end to produce an unbroken line of illumination.

Luminous panels may be used in the decoration of the home. Covered with diffusing glass, they can be recessed in ceilings, walls, columns, window frames or built in. White or tinted lamps can be employed to good effect behind window valances to send some light to the ceiling and some down to enhance the beauty of draperies; concealed behind a baffle of the bookshelf to give a pleasing glow to colorful book bindings, and behind each side of a large mirror, perhaps extending from the top of the fireplace to the ceiling, to flood walls on each side. Indirect lighting by means of a special type pinhole projector below a small opening in the mirrored glass top of a coffee table also is effective. A translucent statuette or a vase of flowers may be placed over the pinhole beam to obtain varied effects.

The living room is, of course, the most important from a lighting standpoint. The first step is to provide adequate light for severe seeing tasks, such as reading and sewing. From there, the homemaker may advance to fixtures whose sole purpose is decoration. Perhaps the room is in one of the more modern structures and has a glass block wall at one end. Appropriate tinted lamps, perhaps yellow and amber, back of that wall, will create the effect of a warm summer sun. Blue and green lamps will provide a cooling effect and a moonlight effect may be obtained through still others. Colored lamps may be used in the bookcase. The dining room also is adaptable to colored lighting. White or colored tube-type lamps, installed in plaster, metal or glass coves around the room or at opposite ends of the room, make possible many interesting effects.

The mirror in the bathroom is the most (Continued to page 130A)



with G-E MAZDA Midgets

. . . for crisp, clear snaps of precious scenes

• Thanksgiving, birthdays and many other occasions cry for snapshots! Flash them... before they can get away... with Midget G-E MAZDA Photoflash Lamp No. 5. No larger than a golf ball, G-E No. 5 is grand in the new low-cost synchronized flash cameras. It's sensational in new "directed flash" reflectors for synchronizers. Plenty of light is available so you can stop down for extra detail and depth. And when it comes to convenience, G-E No. 5 is a wow! You can put up to 30 in one suit-coat pocket. There is no need to be out of bulbs when that "prize" moment comes along. Get a supply of G-E MAZDA Mighty Midgets now, so you'll be ready for these shots that come but once a year!

NOW ONLY

Ask your dealer about new quantity prices

Movie makers: G-E MAZDA Photoflood lamps are just what you need for sparkling indoor scenes in black-and-white or color. New low prices . . . G-E No. 1,15c... G-E No. 2, 30c

GENERAL SELECTRIC MAZDA PHOTOFLASH LAMPS

important one in the home. The best illumination, says Miss Fahsbender, is provided by framing the mirror on top and two sides with built-in panels and lighting from lamps hidden behind diffusing glass.

Again in the game or recreation room, the homeowner may let his imagination run riot in experiments with lighting. In most cases low ceilings necessitate closefitting or recessed lights. Portable lamps, plus general illumination, provide "seeing" light. Special lights producing plenty of illumination for the ping-pong table should be arranged so that they may be lifted off their hooks and disconnected from a center outlet when dancing is desired. If the room has a bar, white or tinted lighting may be used-perhaps a small circular cove over the bar and a luminous glass-rod panel at the back. Fluorescent lamps may be employed to encircle the ceiling, being placed end to end.

Thus, the new tool for beautifying the home may be used in innumerable places, but the homemaker would be wise to consult the lighting engineer before investing too heavily in color fixtures. Since the luxury of color is a new experience for most of us, we may wisely learn, and experiment before fitting this new feature

into our daily living.

Clereach Engineer

Ol Laws

#### Gas Blanket for Hardening Steel Prevents Loss of Carbon

"Heat burn" and the loss of carbon during hardening of steel is prevented by a gas blanket just developed by research engineers. Under heat treatment at 1,500 to 2,300 degrees Fahrenheit, the surface of steel tends to oxidize, soften and lose the carbon put in it to give hardness and resistance to wear. The new gas, called "Endogas," is made by mixing air with natural gas or some other inexpensive fuel gas and heating them to 1,850 degrees in an electric chamber; it contains enough carbon to balance the carbon in the steel, and thus prevents "evaporation" of carbon from the steel while it is going through the hardening process.

(If you will send stamped, self-addressed envelope to our Bureau of Information, you will be given the name and address of the manufacturer of or dealer in any article described in this magazine.

#### They're Tiny-But They Work

(Continued from page 858)

There are radio receiving sets, ranging in size from a two-inch replica of a recent table model to the smallest receiving sets in the world, so tiny that they are kept in capsules. One is but one-thirty-second of an inch square. Yet all the radios work and have received programs from broadcasting stations. Charbneau has his own broadcasting station. It is the smallest one in the world and can be placed in a coat pocket.

There is even a tiny working model of the Model-T Ford motor. The motor is not as long as a cigarette. Right now Charbneau is working on plans for building a minute but working model of an entire auto. When he gets the auto done, he'll probably photograph it with one of the world's smallest cameras, which is a part of his collection. Taking a picture one-fourth by five-eighths of an inch in size, this real "minnie" has already been used to take the illustrations for the world's smallest tooled leather book.

Whenever Charbneau decides to have a replica made of something historical, he demands absolute accuracy. Recently he decided to have built a five-inch working miniature of Franklin's original printing press. Not satisfied with photographs or statistics, he secured permission from the Smithsonian Institution to have his craftsmen make their own measurements.

Under one of Charbneau's powerful microscopes is the world's smallest inscription. It was written by an American on a piece of glass smaller than the point of a pin. The inscription contains 294 letters.

Being the Gulliver of the Lilliputian world naturally has its problems. A whole set of tiny chess men is liable to get lost in a paper match packet, or a dozen fully dressed flea brides and grooms be drowned when a fountain pen leaks. All of the 28,000 items can be packed in one trunk.

Recently, when Charbneau was moving his collection, 200 elephants escaped. You would think that elephants would be fairly easy to locate. But these pachyderms had been carved from ivory with the aid of a rat's tooth, and were all kept in a single hollow seed. The elephants were accidentally spilled on the floor. It took three persons, using powerful magnifying glasses, four hours to find all of the 200 miniatures.







CUPON TODAY



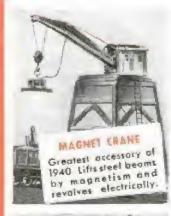


#### New Engines! New Cars! New Scale Model Realism!

Send at once for a copy of the new 1940 Lione! Catalog and have a look at the greatest array of scale model railroading equipment Lione! has ever built, 64 full-color pages of railroading fun, thrills and excitament.

#### Now, Two Trains On One Track

Read about Magic Electrol, the sensational Lional invention that enables two trains to operate on the same track circuit, with each independently controlled. See pictures of new freight cars. Examine details of electro-magnetic couplers and electrically activated cars that unload by remote control. Don't delay. Mail coupon below.





# LIONEL

Scale Model Headquarters

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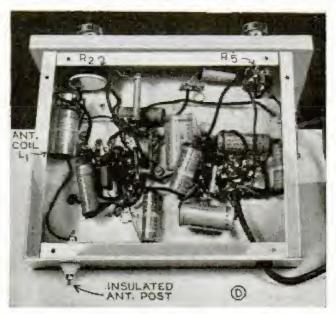


STATE

#### Receiver and Phono Amplifier

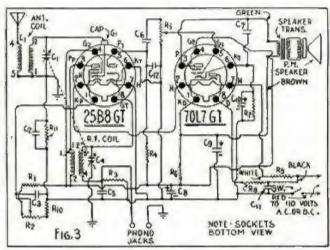
(Continued from page 937)

base, the bracket being removed and the coil supported by the heavy wire lead running up to the stator of condenser section (C<sub>4</sub>), as shown in Fig. 2. The 2-ganged 370-mmfd. condenser is mounted directly on the chassis base by means of two short



machine screws. A detailed list of materials is available from Popular Mechanics Magazine radio department without charge,

To test the set, turn audio volume control (R<sub>5</sub>) full on, advance r.f. volume control about <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> on and rotate the variable condenser until a station is tuned in. To line up the set, tune in a station at about 1,400 kc. and adjust the trimmers (Tr.) on C<sub>1</sub> and C<sub>4</sub> for maximum volume. For phono amplifier use, remove the antenna and plug the phono pick-up into the phono jack strip. Turn "radio" volume control (R<sub>2</sub>) back until there is no signal. Volume of the record player is controlled by (R<sub>5</sub>). Blueprint number for this article is R-285.



CITY

# New Drill Press is *complete* shop in <u>one</u> tool!

New 14" Delta Drill Press is six tools in one—Performs Efficiently: Wood and Metal Drilling, Sanding, Routing, Mortising and Grinding.

• Every workshop can use this new versatile Delta Drill Press. It takes drills up to ½" in diameter; also takes all standard wood bits with ½" shanks; and can be used for boring holes up to 2" with standard multi-spur bits. With proper Delta attachments, this drill press becomes an efficient mortising machine, making square end mortises ½" to ½" wide of any length—also sander, grinder and router. Thousands of craftsmen say it is the most useful tool in their shop.

#### HAS MANY EXCLUSIVE FEATURES

Here is the only drill press that because of exclusive patents gives you the combination of BOTH Self-Aligning Drive and Free Floating Spindle that guarantees accurate alignment. Other features include: "Sealed-for-Life" Ball Bearings that require no lubrication for the life of the bearing; Graduated Quill; Adjustable Depth Pointer; Tilting Table with Index Pin and many others. For the complete story, specifications and low prices, see the latest Delta catalog,

### INSIDE SECRETS OF DELTA QUALITY "Dynamic Balancing"

To insure true running of revolving parts, such as on pulleys and wheels, Delta uses a special operation known as "Dynamic Balancing."

Many machine tools have these parts "Statically Balanced," a method by which the part is mounted upon a shaft and then placed between two horizontal parallel knife edge supports so that the heavy part of the pulley will naturally swing to the bottom. The "heavy" part of the pulley is thus found and by means of a drill the excess metal is removed so that the pulley is better balanced.

"Static Balancing" is not good enough for Delta tools because it does not balance accurately enough. "Dynamic Balancing," done with special delicate electrical apparatus, locates and corrects all heavy spots—so that the revolving part is in perfect balance.

Therefore, only in Delta machines are you assured of absolutely true-running, vibrationless operation which means life-long accuracy for you,

This is another exclusive Delta feature—an extra, costly operation which is done for you—a feature impossible to see with the eye but one which assures you satisfactory operation when you buy Delta machines.





83 New Radios! Real "hits". new plastic models; world-wide sets; "Camera" and 3-way port-ables; Phono and Recorder combinations, Auto Sets, Amateur Receivers—the sets you've been waiting for-all at lowest prices!

24 New Sound Systems! For every P.A. application—7 to 75 watts exclusive new features—amazingly low-priced. Easy Time Payment Plan—15 Day Trial Offer. Also everything in P.A. in a special 35-page section.



LEARN RADIO



New! Radio Dictionary! Just out-compiled by leading auout—compiled by leading su-thorities under ALLIED super-vision. Gives concise, easy-to-understand definitions of all commonly used radio words and terms. For everyone in 100 everyone in 10c Radio, Only.

Radio Builders' Handbook-learn Build your. and have fun. and have fun. Banio your owneradio. Get this valuable beginners' book on radio; tells how to select circults, read diagrams, bothly sets, etc. [Hustrated] worth having. Order by 10c coupon below.



2 TUBE KIT. Same as kit at right; makes all projects but builds 2 tube set instead of 1 tube set. Shpg. wt., 7 lbs. Regular price, \$3.75 \$8.95. Now only... A wonderful offer made by ALLIED to Badio Students, Builders, Beginners, Experimenters, Builders, Beginners, Experimenters, Brand new genuine RCA kits that teach you radio by practical construction, at less than half the regular price! I TUBE KIT. Build a real 1-Tube Receiver, an electronic burglar alarm, Home Broadeaster, Morse Code Practice Set, etc. Kit includes: I RCA tube, socket, candensers, resistors, calls, soldering from and solder, wire, transfermer, headphone, microphone, electric relay, telegraph key, wiring diagrams, 15-page instruction book. Shpg. wt., 7 lbs. Regular price, \$7.50. A wonderful offer made by ALLIED lbs. Regular price, \$7.50, For limited time only \$2.95

#### CATALOG 833 W. Jackson Blvd, Dept. 5-M-1 Chicago, Illinois Rush me your FREE 1941 Fall Radio Catalog 1 enclose for Radio Buliders' Handbook 1 enclose 10c for New Radio Dictionary. 1 enclose \$2,95 (plus postage) for 1 Tube RCA Kit. 1 enclose \$3,75 (plus postage) for 2 Tube RCA Kit. Name Address State...

#### Rubber "Grown" in Factories

(Continued from page 847)

with Standard Oil of New Jersey, Firestone Tire and Rubber company has begun production of buna, a synthetic rubber, which will be manufactured into products with some qualities superior to those of natural rubber. Buna's high resistance to swelling and deterioration, when in contact with oil or gasoline, makes it ideal for hoses, gaskets and other products in many fields of industry. It also is highly resistant to the deteriorating effects of age and heat and to abrasion. Two types are receiving Firestone's attention, buna N and buna S, the first particularly adaptable to manufacture of mechanical rubber goods and the other to use in auto tires.

For the past three years, Goodyear Tire and Rubber company has been developing "Chemigum," a synthetic rubber derived from petroleum. Tires in limited quantities Fare being produced from the material and it is being used in gasoline hose, airplane brakes, gaskets and other products. A factory now under construction will increase the output of Chemigum considerably.

Neoprene, developed by the du Pont company several years ago, is a rubberlike Aproduct created by intricate processes from acoal, limestone and salt. It looks like natrural rubber, acts like rubber, serves wher-Jever rubber serves, but it is many more times resistant to oil, grease and gasoline, and to alkalies and acids; it offers far su-Sperior resistance to sunlight, oxygen, heat and age, and it is less permeable to gases. At present, du Pont is making and ship-Sping about 550,000 pounds of neoprene a Smonth. When commercial production began, its price was \$1.05 a pound; now it is sixty-five cents. Neoprene is being processed by 250 manufacturers into sealing strips around windows of high-altitude airplanes, parts for automobiles, essential items in shipbuilding and the machine tool, electrical and petroleum industries; it also is used for garments, shoes, gloves, hospital equipment and many other lines. It is being employed commercially in solid tires for trucks, and experimentally in pneumatic tires for highway service.

Back in 1925 Dr. J. C. Patrick was working in his Kansas City laboratory, trying to devise a new way to make an automobile anti-freeze solution. He had mixed

two chemicals, ethylene dichloride and sodium polysulphide, which he thought might combine to form a desirable new anti-freeze. Instead of a new liquid, a gummy looking mass formed in the beaker, much to his surprise. Examination showed that the mass was rubbery and possessed enough properties to warrant/being called synthetic rubber. Today it is marketed under the name of Thiokol. It is compounded of elements taken from a sulphur mine, a salt mine and gas wells, all of which are abundant in the United States.

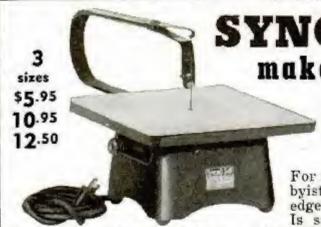
Thiolsol is employed to advantage in the automobile, oil, printing, cable and other industries. For instance, when you drive into a filling station, the attendant thrusts into your tank a/gasoline hose made of Thiokol or some other synthetic rubber. Such hose lasts two or three times longer, is more flexible and is lighter in weight than rubber-metal hose formerly used.

Among other rubberlike materials being made in this country is Koroseal, a Goodrich product./ It is produced by combining ordinary lime, coke and salt; polymerizing the compound, then heating with a solvent and cooling. In great steel mills today, vats are lined with the material to resist the action of the violently corrosive mixture of nitric and hydrofluoric acids used to pickle stainless steel. Applied to cloth, Koroseal renders it impervious to acids, alcohols and stains, as well as to sunlight and water. Such varied products as shower curtains, draperies, upholstery, umbrellas, raincoats, food covers and sports wear are being made from it. Some other rubber companies have produced somewhat similar materials. all of which find wide usage, because more than 35,000 different articles are being made from rubber or rubber substitutes.

Automobile tires made of Goodrich's Ameripol already are on sale at a price higher than that of natural rubber tires. The price of Ameripol is about sixty-five cents per pound, whereas natural rubber sells for about twenty cents per pound. After the World War rubber went up to \$1.25 a pound. If its price ever again is forced upward, by shortage due to war or control of the supply by foreign nations, American manufacturers can turn to synthetic rubber, and the motorist can be assured of an adequate supply of tires for his car, as well as of other rubber goods, at a price not much higher than he now pays.



make better mechanics North Bros. Mfg. Co. Philadelphia, U. S. A.



SYNCRO JIG SAWS make Ideal Christmas Gi

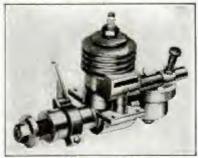
> Working tool to gladden the heart of any man or youth who enjoys the thrill of useful construction. Make model boats, plaques, maps, puzzles, house-hold novelties; any kind of scrollwork, marquetry or inlay.

For model builders, cabinet workers, sign builders, hobbyists, home furniture builders. Cut fast, with smooth edges. Electro magnetic powered, requiring no motor.

Is safe, efficient, economical. Delivers 7200 cutting strokes per minute. Plugs into light socket. No rotating parts. No oiling. Accidental injury practically impossible. Handles veneer, plywood, bakelite, masonite as well as wood. Throat clearances of models 8"; 131/2"; 16". Sold by your favorite dealer.

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Syncro B30



# PERSONAL

Are you the type of person who can smile while others boil? You can be-when you use "Prestone" anti-freezethe winter protection that will not boil away!

See Inside Front Cover and Inside Back Cover

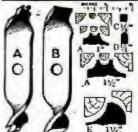


Six piece set, in velvet lined leather case, special price, only \$13.95.

Precision machined in one thousandths, up to 4" outside and 35;" inside measurements, Guaranteed accurate, easy to read and adjust. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back.

This is your opportunity to get one at a Bargain Price if you act now. Shipped prepaid on receipt of remittance. On FOLDER C.O.D. shipments, send deposit of \$2.00.

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Groove Cutters C or D A', 14' or 35', 51.25,
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Ely MAKES 3' STOCK) 51.50.

STATE SIZE HOLE, POSTPAID

STATE SIZE HOLE. POSTPAID John A. Sandstrom, Box 317, Stow, N. Y.



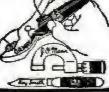
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#### The Camera in Industry

(Continued from page 863)

the camera itself. This camera used film three and one-half feet by five feet in size.

\* At the proving ground, new cars are torn down and every part is photographed, so that permanent records may be kept. Duplicate cars which have been driven on scheduled test runs are also disassembled and a record photograph is made of each integral part. Many pictures, both movies and stills, are made of cars doing unusual jobs or undergoing tests—such as the recent 100,000-mile run by a Chevrolet truck through deep snow, over mountain roads and on hot desert sands.

Trick photography, which makes no pretense of emulating the synthetic sets frequently employed in Hollywood, is sometimes required to tell the story of an engineering accomplishment. Some of these are made by the unusual use of light, such as night pictures with point sources of light attached to cars to show spring action on rough roads or top action on cabriolets; others are made by combining parts of several photographs in one picture.

One form of photography used in the auto industry—the form that is perhaps best known to the public—is advertising illustration. Camera artists spare no effort to secure the effects assigned by art directors. They arrange their properties and pose their models carefully and many who "paint" with light and lens are as well known in their field as the top-ranking painters who used palette and brush as their medium of expression.

Most of these illustrations are made outdoors, using the best source of illumination of all, the sun, but many are made in
huge studios, with painted or photographic
backgrounds and thousands of watts of artificial light. These "Kliegs" and "hot
spots" sometimes create unnatural glare on
cars, necessitating "makeup" such as
milady must use to appear her best before
a portrait photographer. The "makeup" is
not powder or paint, but ordinary condensed milk, sprayed on with a paint gun.

Sales departments make use of many other types of pictures to acquaint both the public and their own field force with facts about the product or activities within the organization. Pictures of new models, and

(Continued to page 140A)

# SHORT CUTS FOR THE



The illustration shows how to rub down a sprayed lacquer surface. Use a cloth or felt pad and reduce the pressure towards the end of the finishing operation. Then polish with a woolen cloth. This produces a fine satiny gloss. Many more helpful hints are given in the booklet offered below.

Ask your hardware dealer or mill supply house to show you the complete line of Sharpening stones, grinding wheels and other abrasive products for the home craftsman. Send 10%, coin or stamps, for souvenir sharpening stone and valuable illustrated manual on how abrasive products can save time and help you do better work.

Write Dept. M 120

#### THE CARBORUNDUM COMPANY

Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Carborundum and Aloxite are registered trade-marks of and indicate manufacture by The Carborundum Company



Never waste anti-freeze in a dirty radiator. It's expensive—and dangerous! Clean out rust, sludge, sediment and scale before you add anti-freeze. You can do it yourself with Sani-Flush. It costs only 10c (25c for the largest truck or tractor).

If you prefer, ask your service station to do the job for you with Sani-Flush. Be sure and be safe. This chemical compound cannot injure motor or fittings. It opens the delicate veins of the radiator. Motors run cool. Power is saved, You'll find Sani-Flush in most bathrooms for cleaning toilet bowls. See directions on can. Sold by grocery, drug, hardware, and 5-and-10c stores, 10c and 25c sizes. The Hygienic Products Co., Canton, Ohio.

# Sani-Flush





# Portable Unit Freezes Ice Cream Electrically in Ten Minutes



Start this ice-cream freezer while you're eating the first course and it will produce dessert in time

Modern counterpart of the hand-turned ice-cream freezer is a portable electric unit that freezes two quarts in ten minutes. It is available in two, four and six-quart sizes, and it serves many other purposes auxiliary refrigerator for summer cottage, picnic pack box or ice bucket.

#### Hand-Cranked Knife Sharpener Removes Nicks in Blade

Household knives of all kinds can be sharpened in a hand-cranked unit that is screwed to the wall or table end. Designed



This hand-cranked sharpener, mounted on wall or table, puts an edge on knife without marring finish

for a lifetime use, the manufacturer says it will not scratch the finest stainless-steel blade. A guide slot holds the knife in correct position for sharpening, and its action corrects nicks or flaws on the blade.



BOYS! Send coupon to Red Ryder for your FREE Christmas Reminder Kit, enclosing 3c stamp, please, to help cover our handling-postage cost. Kit contains printed "messages" to be signed by you, pictures of all Daisy Air Rilles, complete directions. It's FUN to use! Put "Reminders" under milk bottles, in mail-box, on Dad's easy chair. They'll HELP you get a Daisy for Christmas.

If you HAVE money now (or can get it) buy your Baisy NOW. IF your Bealer hasn't it, or no Dealer is near you, send us the price of your favorite Baisy in cash or Money Order and we'll mail it POSTPAID. (Cuty added in Canada.) Or-rush coupon, It stamp, for Christmas Reminder Kit.



RED RYDER (Care of DARSY MARU-FACTURING COMPANY, 5412 Union St., Plymouth, Michigan, U. S. A.)

Dear Red: I enclose he stamp for postage-tundling consense. Ficase send he Free, COFYRIGHTED Christman Reminder Kit.

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STATE

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NEW "CIGAR SHAPED" ALUMINUM "TOR-PEDO" LEVEL. Wren't tear pocket. Serves many uses for worksports of in linguist. If home shapes a shape is El 40. enutdid Alwaya POCKET LEVEL FOUNTAIN PEN SIZE.

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You plow, disc, cultivate, mov, haul, do belt work, for about 33e a day. Safe, trouble-free long life. New plow lift, new reverse. Hundreds used, Save by buying from maker. Two weeks trial. FIEEE catalog. Write today.

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- A B F 6 5





new manufacturing methods are distributed to newspapers and other publications throughout the world. Pictures of testing processes in experimental laboratories and on proving grounds are sent to the press and distributed to sales forces in illustrated house organs, or company publications. Huge enlargements are often made for exhibition use. Chevrolet recently executed for one exhibit a photo mural measuring twelve feet by 128 feet, and for another, ten stage backdrops, each measuring fifteen by thirty-five feet.

Educational motion pictures in both black and white and in color, and even animated cartoons, are made for distribution to motion-picture theaters. These are especially useful in rural communities where many people never have the opportunity of attending automobile shows.

Small wonder, then, that vast amounts of all kind of film are employed in the automotive industry. A twelve-month supply of film for the photographic section of General Motors may read something like this: Translite film, 7,200 square feet; eight-byten film, 19,800 pieces; four-by-five, 17,376 pieces; lantern slides, 26,640 pieces; Kodachromes (color film), 68,700 square inches; offset film, 40,000 square feet. In addition, there are other users of film with the organization, such as Buick, G. M. Truck, the G. M. proving ground, Diesel plant and Research division, so the total used by the corporation would be of startling proportions.

Many other industries are employing the camera so effectively in the correlation of engineering data and particularly in the study of metals that the influence of photography is being felt indirectly by millions of purchasers of American products.

### "Fire Cards" Scattered by Plane Are Revival of Old Weapon

One of the rare "new" weapons to appear in the European war is the phosphorus card scattered over Germany by British planes to start fires, but in reality it is only a new form of an old weapon. These "fire leaves" are flat sheets of pressed guncotton containing phosphorus, which bursts into flame when it dries out. Years ago the British used very small incendiary bombs to destroy grain fields during warfare against tribes in northwestern India.

#### Sailors of the Sky

(Continued from page 869)

continuous and fully annotated record of the Clipper's progress.

One of the primary purposes of this careful charting of progress is for the continuous advice of the guarding ground stations at either end of the route. Every half hour the captain radios a complete position report to these stations, and herein lies the importance of the air liner's radio officer. This man, a specialist in his field, has as his responsibility the maintenance of continuous radio communication with the ground —the only link between the Clipper, flying high above the vast ocean, and a couple of radio stations on land, several hundred miles away, or an occasional ship. The radio officer has at his disposal two complete radio installations, both transmitters and receivers, as well as the loop antenna used for taking radio bearings. In addition to relaying the half-hourly position reports, it is his duty also to take the numerous radio bearings so important to navigation of the aircraft. Also, for the sake of continuous check on the operation of the communications equipment, he makes a radio contact with the ground station nearest the Clipper every ten minutes.

The purpose of sending half-hourly position reports is primarily one of safety. By following a regular schedule of these reports the ground station, which charts and records each position as it is announced from the airplane, is enabled to keep constant track of progress; furthermore; should trouble develop, the ground station knows just where the aircraft is, precisely as of the last half-hourly report, and very closely beyond by a projection on the chart by using the Clipper's speed and course following the last given position. The technicians on the ground therefore are in a position to render all possible aid with the least delay, should help be requested.

The position reports as sent from the plane include the Clipper's altitude, speed, latitude and longitude, wind direction and velocity and a picture of prevailing conditions relative to clouds and sea.

The heart of an airplane is, of course, its engines; in the case of the Clipper, there are four, each of 1,500 horsepower, four-teen-cylinder, double-bank Wright Cy-

(Continued to page 142A)

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clones. Their regulation and control is entirely the function of the engineering officer. At the captain's direction, this important member of the crew makes appropriate changes in the engines' power output and speed for the purpose of conserving fuel and maintaining schedule in the most efficient manner. Before him on an instrument board are the myriad instruments vital to proper functioning of this great 6,000-horsepower plant. These instruments, in the absence of an officer assigned especially to supervision and control of the engines, would have to come under the jurisdiction of the pilot, but under the system of multiple-member crews developed by Pan American Airways, the pilot is relieved entirely of this responsibility. In the cockpit proper there are only the so-called "flight instruments"-altimeter, air-speed indicator, compasses, gyroscopic pilot, turn-and-bank indicator. It will be seen from all this that the mechanical task of operating a Clipper across vast stretches of ocean is a highly specialized job, requiring the services of highly trained men in several fields and requiring also a rigid system of division of duty, both to attain maximum efficiency in each position and to reduce fatigue from too many tasks.

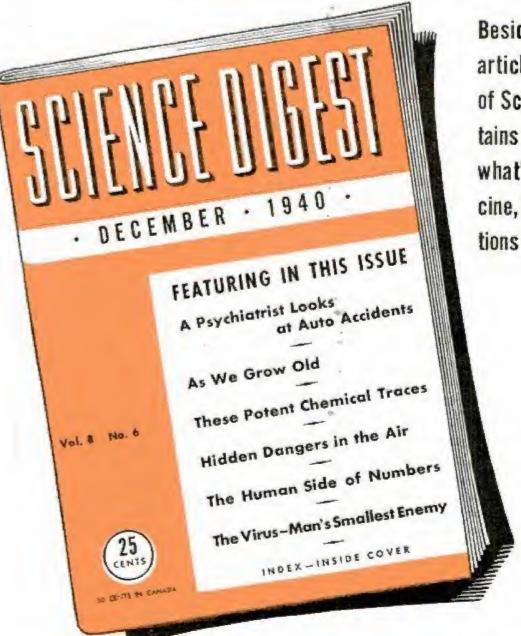
#### "Jack-in-the-Box" Cigarette Case Has Clock in the Lid

One cigarette at a time springs out as the lid of a combination cigarette dispenser, ash tray and clock is rotated. Cigarettes are set upright in sockets arranged about the center ash tray, a spring beneath each "smoke" applying pressure to eject it.



Cover removed from case, left, shows cigarettes in slats. Right, one has sprung up from hole in cover

# Auto Accidents, Health, Fame!



Besides its featured articles, each issue of Science Digest contains sections telling what's new in medicine, in patents, inventions and processes.

For his own protection every driver of a car is interested in reducing the number of automobile accidents. That's why every driver should buy the December issue of Science Digest and read—"A Psychiatrist Looks at Auto Accidents." Every worker is interested in health and full-time pay and so he should read "Hidden Dangers of the Air." It deals with both living and working conditions. And someone who reads this advertisement

undoubtedly will achieve fame. The age when he most likely will do the work that gains him fame is given in the article—"As We Grow Old." These three articles of almost universal interest are merely "appetizers" for the ninety-six pages that make up the attention-holding December issue.

SCIENCE DIGEST, INC. 631-643 St. Clair St., Chicago

### ON NEWSSTANDS NOW-25 CENTS

30 CENTS IN CANADA

DECEMBER, 1940

Try These in Your

(Continued from page 875)

resembles mica and that is expanded to transmitting its load vertically to the walls, fifteen times its original size by heat treat- The roof is "skin stressed" like an air-Sment, is a light, fireproof insulating mateboth against temperature and sound. Copper roofs are permanent and also expensive, but now copper roofing material is paper, providing the advantages of copper at only a fraction of its former cost.

effective for keeping heat out as are shades turer is building permanent exterior metal vides savings of as much as twenty-five awnings for window openings consisting of per cent in heating costs. strips of metal with alternate strips raised between without permitting rain to drip through. Another concern makes permanent wooden awnings that have adjustable blades and these blades may be tilted toa new kind of window screen. The screen has fine horizontal copper strips set at an angle like a Venetian blind yet from a distance resembling the ordinary wire-mesh screen. Easy to look through at most angles, the screen presents an unbroken copper shield to the sun after the sun has risen more than half way above the horizon. It excludes as much as ninety per cent of the sun's direct heat.

Linoleum has moved up from its place as a floor covering and is now also widely used as a wall covering. Rubber wall tile is being manufactured and like linoleum is easy to keep clean. Fire-resistant wall panels of colored plastic materials baked onto base materials are being made for use in bathrooms and kitchens. Curved metal shapes are available for nailing into the corners of floors where dust is difficult to sweep out.

With the new materials that are being made available, new architectural styles and structural designs become possible. One such innovation is a new roof design that takes advantage of the structural strength of materials that are manufactured in large sheets, such as Celotex or plywood. In the new design such sheets

mer heat out of the house and winter heat ware formed into a roof that has normal Vermiculite, a unique mineral that pitch but that curves down at the eaves, I plane and is supported by itself and by rial that is poured into the side walls or laminated arched rafters four feet apart. over the ceilings of rooms as an insulator. The roof has no outward thrust and needs on interior ties.

The design weighs half as much, costs a quarter less, and has the same load-bearavailable as a thin foil attached to roofing ing characteristics as conventional roof designs. It has been engineered for spans of thirty-two feet although greater widths Shades inside a window are not nearly as are contemplated. When one of the various insulating boards is used for the structural installed outside a window. One manufac-, Sheets the insulation that it affords pro-

One Los Angeles builder who wanted to over the others to provide air circulation ind out just what he could do with this roof design decided to build a model home that would also include every new feature and material that would help keep his costs down. His house has 672 square feet of any angle from inside the house. Keeping floor space and contains a kitchen, living out the heat is also one of the purposes of room, two bedrooms, and a bath as well as closets. Complete with bathroom fixtures and other built-in features it is ready for ≥occupancy at a cost of \$1,775. Even where material prices are higher the cost should not exceed \$100 above his price.

> All in all, you can buy more for your money when you build a house today than you ever could before. You may even have your own private swimming pool, if you like, and at a fraction of what pools used to cost. Complete with filtration systems, engineers will install a pool in your back yard at not much more than \$1,000.

#### Electric Plare for the Highway Throws Bright Red Light



10/4

A six-volt electric flare for use on the highway sheds a bright light behind the halted truck or automobile. Its lens is designed to produce an even red light, without any dark zones.

OPULAR MÉCHANICS



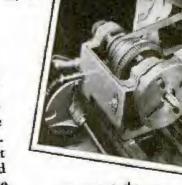
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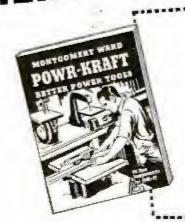


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# SKIP IT!

Skip freeze-up worries. Put "Prestone" anti-freeze in your car now—one shot protects you all winter. You're safe and you know it!

See Inside Front Cover and Inside Back Cover

#### Millions from Waste

(Continued from page 837)

into marketable forms each year. Casein, which is made from skim milk, has many uses. More of it is used in coating of paper than for all other purposes. It binds clay and other material to the paper stock. It also is employed in the paint industry; as a base for insecticide sprays; as a filler for certain cloths; in the processing of leather and linoleum; and as a plastic which may be formed into belt buckles, buttons, knitting needles and many other articles.

A synthetic fiber having the appearance of high-grade wool can be manufactured from casein, so milk wastes some day may be the source of a large part of our clothing. Skim milk contains about three per cent casein. Four thousand pounds of milk, approximately the amount produced annually by the average cow in the United States, makes about 100 pounds of casein fiber.

Scientists of the U.S. Bureau of Dairy Industry have perfected a process for making a transparent rubber-like substance from lactic acid of whey that has many promising uses in industry. While softer and more flexible than organic glass, the substance is still very tough and elastic. The lactic acid is obtained from casein whey, the waste left after casein is extracted from skim milk, by fermenting the lactose with suitable organisms to produce crude lactic acid or its salts. National Dairy Products Corporation points out that lactic acid also is used in making ices and sherbets, pickles, jams and jellies, yeast; as an aid in dyeing; in tanning; in manufacture of plastics and as a flux for soft solders.

When whey is dried, a light cream-colored powder readily soluble in water is obtained for use in creamed soups, gravies, bread, muffins, cakes and candies. Reinforced with milk minerals, it may be used in liquids, in chocolate milk, in fruit or vegetable juices or in carbonated water. It also may be sprinkled in soups, over cereals or taken dry. The function of such products is to establish good intestinal hygiene and to provide milk minerals, especially calcium and phosphorus, in concentrated and readily available form.

From the forest wastes—scraps, edges, slabs, irregular pieces, sawdust and second-growth scrub pine trees—the Masonite

(Continued to page 149A)



## **GET YOUR NEW** FREE Catalog of CRAFTSMAN Power Tools America's Most Popular Line

Here's the power tool catalog every craftsman wants! The CRAFTSMAN Power Tool Catalog for 1941. Bigger than ever! 48 big pages, packed with tools that every home craftsman will want to read about. Every tool is priced at Sears easy-to-pay prices.

Many Interesting New Developments, Contains many new tools to make your work easier . . . better! Includes a sensational low priced, full size, portable belt sander . . . a streamlined, super-power rotary electric tool and many others.

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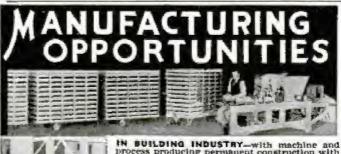
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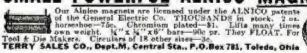


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Seeds of cotton, once a waste and a nuisance, now have a value of \$200,000,000 in a billion-and-a-half dollar cotton crop. Cottonseed oil goes into soaps, candles, lamp oil, cooking and other uses. Cotton linters, another farm waste, are now an initial material in the manufacture of rayon, and in coated fabrics that go into handbags, wall coverings and automobile upholstery. More than 100 commercial uses have been developed for corn, ranging from glycerin used in explosives to carbon-dioxide used in "Dry-Ice." More than one-tenth of the corn crop now has the factory as its market. More and more uses are being found for the soybean. Wheat straw is made into corrugated paper boxes. Furfural produced from oat hulls is being sold in tank carlots.

Of highest importance in the disposal of farm and forest wastes and crop surpluses is the fact that cellulose, an invaluable raw material, makes up the bulk of all plants. From it is made all paper, all rayon, a family of plastics that is being put to thousands of uses, huge quantities of building boards, cements for the leather industry and an endless list of other goods. In general, cellulose extracted from wood is cheaper than that derived from farm crops, and wood is the product which nearly onethird of the land of the United States is best suited to growing. But if and when agricultural science bridges that gap of cost, it stands to augment the supplies for an already enormous, ever-expanding industrial cellulose market.

(Continued to page 151A)

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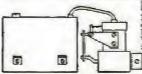
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In addition to existing government bureaus and the many industrial companies with research efforts directed at utilizing wastes and surpluses, the federal government has four large laboratories under construction to further the cause.

Confronting the research man is the problem, among others, of what to do with the annual agricultural wastes amounting to approximately eighty-five million tons of wheat straw, rye straw, barley straw, corncobs, oat hulls, rice hulls, cotton stems and pods, corn stover. Again it is estimated that between twenty and twenty-five per cent of the average forest tree is lost in converting the log into lumber. So, while vast strides have been made, much remains to be done in this job of turning waste into money.

## Keeping a Big Bridge Young

(Continued from page 843)

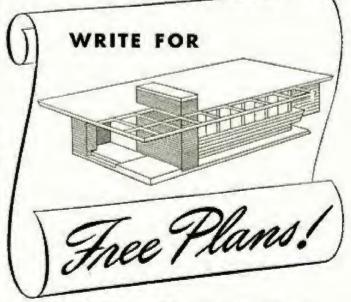
receive a shock from the static energy stored in the vehicle. The jolt sometimes slammed his arm back against the wall of his metal booth and injured him. Ordinary catwhisker discharge wires set in the pavement to scratch against the underside of approaching cars didn't always discharge the static and now sturdy wire scrapers fixed to special grounds are used.

Four million cars per year are driven over the bridge and more than 30,000,000 people have crossed it in the three and a half years since it was opened. The Golden Gate bridge is the longest single-span bridge in the world and its towers are taller than those of any other bridge. The length of the suspended structure is 6,450 feet. Each tower weighs 22,200 tons and supports a 61,500-ton load. Each cable is 7,650 feet long and consists of 27,572 separate wires. The cables are anchored in 120,000-ton blocks of concrete buried in the rock on each shore. A few miles away from the Golden Gate bridge is the world's other largest bridge, the San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridge whose eight miles of length is the longest of all.

What is the useful life of a great bridge? Engineers used to say that a bridge should last for a century, but now, with modern protective measures, they think that there is no reason why such a bridge as the one that spans the Gold Gate should not last for 1,000 years.

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## Hunting the Secret of Life

(Continued from page 803)

season, using nothing but carbon dioxide and water as raw materials. This sugar, in turn, is utilized by the plant in creating its structure. A large pine tree adds the amount of material in an ordinary broomstick to its size every day.

In the laboratory it is possible to change carbon dioxide and water into sugar by first grouping the raw materials into a formaldehyde as an intermediate step. This artificial sugar hasn't the nutritional value of its natural relative and the process isn't



Apparatus for breaking down plant structure and separating it into its elements for study

nearly as efficient as the plant's method, but for a long time it was assumed that plants created sugar by a somewhat parallel process. Now this idea has been disproved by Dr. S. Rubin of the University of California who, using carbon dioxide that has been made radio-active in the cyclotron, has traced the absorption of carbon dioxide in a plant. Contrary to expectations, no radio-active formaldehyde has been found and the conclusion is that some other process is involved instead.

The radio-active carbon dioxide is created by the bombardment of boron, and the carbon atoms that are knocked off the boron are converted into carbon-dioxide molecules. These in turn are fed to barley, wheat and sunflower plants and the plants are later analyzed to learn what trans-

(Continued to page 154A)



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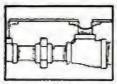
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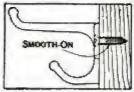
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formations have occurred in the carbon. The carbon loses its radio-activity in six hours and a different isotope of carbon that has a radio-active half-life of half a million years is now being created in the cyclotron for additional tests.

Photosynthesis is such a baffling study that on the west coast several groups are attacking it by different methods. Besides the radio-active trace studies, a Carnegie Institution group on the Stanford University campus is studying the composition of chlorophyll and other plant pigments, a Stanford group working at the Hopkins Marine Station at Pacific Grove is investigating the way that green and purple bacteria use light, and at the University of California, Los Angeles, the formation of chlorophyll is being studied.

Two interesting facts about photosynthesis are that all types of plants use exactly the same method for converting elements into food and that this method has remained the same all through evolution. The world's largest trees and smallest algae, and marine plants that grow below the surface of the water as well as desert shrubs, all have photosynthetic apparatus. Not all plants, of course, are green. Some kelp is yellow brown and some desert shrubs are grey. Yet the green chlorophyll is present in each, either mixed in with the other pigments or arranged below the surface. In fact there are two different green chlorophylls and twelve different yellow pigments that seem to make up the mechanism, although the exact role that each specialized pigment plays is not yet known.

Most plants absorb solar energy from both ends of the visible spectrum, using more red and blue light than any of the wave lengths in between. The so-called purple bacteria, however, which are microscopic plants that have the power of locomotion, use a small amount of light from the red end of the spectrum and a considerable percentage of energy in the infra-red region. Green bacteria, another primitive species, use none of the light visible to us and depend on solar radiations between 7,000 and 8,000 Angstrum units in the infra-red region. In each case this probably is because both types of plants inhabit mud and marshy places and live

(Continued to page 156A)

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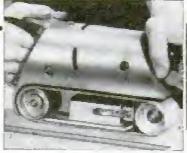
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(Continued from page 154A)

beneath films of mud that are opaque to light but not to infra-red.

Occasionally nature produces an albino plant that is devoid of chlorophyll. Lacking the apparatus for photosynthesis, such a plant grows until it exhausts the nutriment stored in its seed and then dies because it has no way of manufacturing food for itself. In the laboratory these waxy plants can be grown to maturity by supplying them with sugar and carbohydrates in a water solution. A strange freak of nature in California is a white redwood, a tall growing tree that is a sucker from its parent tree and whose bark and leaves are white. Apparently chlorophyll from the parent tree is blocked off somehow, so that the white redwood survives only because of the food that its parent tree furnishes it. Mushrooms and other members of the vegetable kingdom that exist in the dark need no photosynthesis apparatus because they are parasites and feed on foods stored in the soil instead of creating their own foods.

Meanwhile, attempts to find other ways to harness the sun are continuing. At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology a group is seeking ways of turning solar heat into power. Possibly 20,000 solar water heaters are used in the southern states for heating domestic water, the system employing a heat trap on the roof, with coils of pipe inside the trap.

Still, photosynthesis appears to be the most efficient way to utilize solar energy and to the scientists it is the most challenging. Some of the conclusions that they have reached are that plants create carbohydrates by an involved process in which small amounts of minerals possibly act as catalysts, instead of by a simple conversion from carbon dioxide and water. The main work that solar energy performs seems to be in removing oxygen from the raw materials, and the chemical conversion itself perhaps takes place in the dark, below the leaf surface. So far, every likely idea as to how photosynthesis occurs has been proved wrong, yet today the scientists feel they are very close to finding the right answer.

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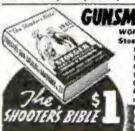
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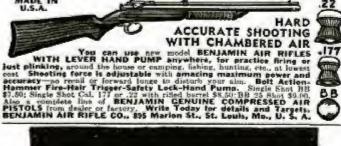


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## Planning the World of Tomorrow

(Continued from page 810)

tive power. The vehicles would be borne on wheels placed in a single line below the body, but as speed increased, most of the weight would be lifted off the wheels. Fins and automatically operated ailerons at the tail would assist in maintaining equilibrium. Stubby winglike projections at each side would enclose rubber-tired wheels which would contact the steel sidewalls, eliminating the necessity for directional control. Spacing, starting and stopping would be automatic.

Adjoining the central high-speed lanes there would be lanes for long-haul, heavy traffic carried in trailer trains longer than are practicable on today's highways, but far short of present freight-train lengths. These trailer trains would be broken up at loading points and destination, for convenient transport over public streets and roads. Thus the traffic on this new system would be door-to-door traffic, except in the case of the super-speed capsules. Outer lanes would be for fast, short-haul traffic, both passenger and freight. Here cruising speeds of 100 miles an hour or more would be normal. Access to public highways would be provided at convenient intervals by means of over or underpasses without crossing of lanes.

On these roadways vehicles in the same lane would be kept a safe distance apart by automatic controls. The entire system would be operated under strict supervision to maintain maximum speeds with safety.

A step in the direction of this reborn "railroad" system already has been taken in the construction of a high-speed high-way upon a railroad right-of-way between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, Pa. This broad ribbon of pavement runs through a number of tunnels along a fairly level route marked by the absence of sharp curves, and provides an "all-weather" route, because vehicles may operate on it through winter's storms.

Our public highway system inevitably will develop along the lines indicated by the more advanced construction of today. Multiple lanes and elaborate clover-leaf intersections are not uncommon and will be greatly expanded in the future, the whole plan being to canalize traffic according to speeds and to eliminate inter-

ference, friction and cross-movements. Multiple street levels in cities have existed on paper for years and tentative beginnings been made toward their construction.

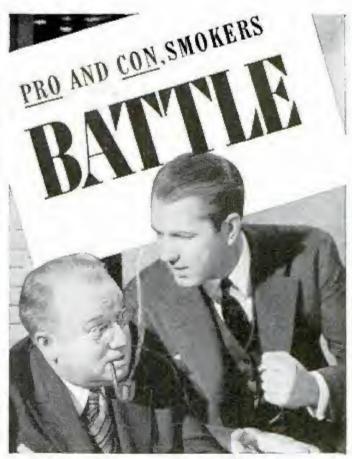
It is impossible to predict the development of our vehicles of transportation because any radical development depends upon discoveries and inventions not yet made. These may be in the form of new motive power, either in fuel or engine design. Control of atomic energy may be attained or we may discover "cool power" as we are now nearing a realization of "cool light." New metal alloys of greatly increased tensile strength probably will influence vehicular design, Automobiles undoubtedly will be more cleanly streamlined, less easily damaged in collision and have higher power-to-weight ratios. Trains, as we know them, will cease to exist. Commercial water transport will produce simpler forms with improvement in speed and reduction of operating cost, perhaps with planes supplanting luxury liners as a means of rapid transport.

Aviation's continued progress depends upon certain basic discoveries and inventions yet to come. One of these might be the discovery of some way to control or counteract the force of gravity. At the moment, we only know the effect of that force. Airplane engines have been developed so that part of this force is counteracted indirectly by employing the lifting power of air. Perhaps some radio-magnetic device might be devised for eliminating the pull of gravity directly, thus relieving engines of the great task of getting planes off the ground by the present indirect application of their power. A longrange research program aimed at finding the means of reducing or eliminating the pull of gravity might bring results sooner than expected.

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(Continued to page 161A)



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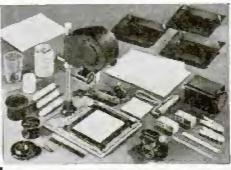
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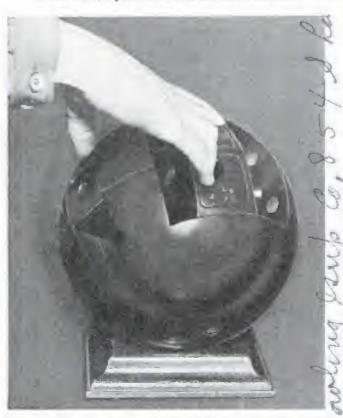


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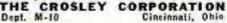


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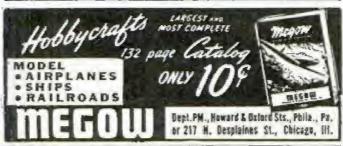
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Baltimore, Md. — Carey Mach. & Supply Co. Boston, Mass. — South Bend Lathe Works\* Buffalo, N. Y. — R. C. Neal Company, Inc. Chicago, Ill. — South Bend Lathe Work † Cleveland, Ohio — Reynolds Machinery Co. Detroit, Mich. — Lee Machinery Company Los Angeles, Cal. — Eccles & Davies Mach. Co. Milwaukee, Wis. — W. A. Voell Machinery Co. New York, N. J. — J. R. Edwards Machinery Co. New York, N. Y. — A. C. Colby Machinery Co. Philadelphia, Pa. — W. B. Rapp, Machinery Portland, Ore. — Portland Machinery Company Providence, R. I. — Geo. T. Reynolds & Son Rochester, New York — Ogden R. Adams San Francisco, Cal. — Moore Machinery Co. \*Boston Sales Office, 67 Broadway, Kendall Sq., Cambridge, Mass.: Telephone Trowbridge 6369, †Chicago Sales Office, Room 308 Machinery Sales Building; Telephone State 7283.

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# On These Features

- Heat-treated alloy steel headstock spindle with capillary oiling system.
- · Hand-scraped lathe bed V-ways.
- Precision machine cut gears.
- · Hand-scraped, lapped dovetails.
- Precision lead screw.
- Thread range 4 to 160 per inch.
- All steel and iron construction.
- Precision graduated steel micrometer collars.
- Ball thrust bearing on spindle.
- · Drum type reversing switch.

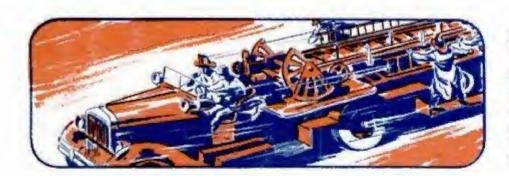
## Popular In Industry

The above features are responsible for the popularity of the 9-inch Workshop Lathe in industrial shops. This tathe is used by the Caterpillar Tractor Co., Bell Telephone Lab., Ford Motor Co., National Cash Register Co. and thousands of other manufacturers.



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